

MARVEL[®]
COMICS

THE
FALL
OF
THE
HAMMER
PART 3 OF 5

\$1.25 US
\$1.60 CAN
5
FEB
UK 95p

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

X-MEN 2099TM



Don 93
Jim
Tom

NEW YORK CITY.

--GET A LOAD OF THIS STORM. THINK MAYBE THE THUNDER GOD REALLY IS BACK?

DON'T TELL ME
YOU BUY ALL THIS
RELIGIOUS
MINDWASH?

LOOK, EVER SINCE
SPIDER-MAN
APPEARED, THERE'S
BEEN THIS WEIRD
VIBE IN THE CITY--

--I MEAN,
WEIRDER THAN
USUAL.

HOW DO YOU
EXPLAIN THOSE
FREAKS IN THAT
HIGH-RISE CRIB?

FOUR OF THEM--AND
THE ONLY ONE WE NAIL
IS THE NORMAL--

NORMAL?

NOT
QUITE.

FORGIVE ME
IF I'M TOO
BUSY TO SPEND
TIME IN AN
ALCHEMAX
LOCKUP.

I HAVE
FRIENDS
TO FIND--

--AND
I KNOW
EXACTLY
WHERE TO
LOOK.

"KNOW
MORTALS, YOU
TRESPASS UPON
VALHALLA,
SACRED VESSEL
OF THE AESIR--"

LIGHTNINGSTRIKE

THE FALL OF THE HAMMER

PART THREE

BROUGHT TO YOU FROM THE
HEART OF THE STORM BY:
JOHN FRANCIS MOORE
WRITER
RON LIM
PENCILER
JIM SANDERS III
INKER
KEN LOPEZ
LETTERER
TOM SMITH
COLORIST
JOEY CAVALIERI/
LOKI, MISCHIEFMAKER
TOM DEFALCO
ODIN, ALL-SEEING

THIS MORTAL CONSTRUCT
HAS BEEN CONSECRATED
BY THOR, SON OF ODIN--

--WHO HAS
RETURNED TO RIGHT
MIDGARD FROM ITS
ERRANT PATH.

AS YOUR BESTIAL
COMPANION FALLS
BEFORE THE WRATH
OF HELA, NIFLHEIM'S
HARSH MISTRESS--

--NOW SHALL
YOU BOW BEFORE
HEIMDALL--

--AND SWEAR
ALLEGIANCE
TO THE GODS
OF ASGARD.

IF YOU WANT
ME TO **SWEAR**,
I HAVE SOME
CHOICE WORDS
FOR YOU!

DOESN'T LOOK LIKE
HAGAR HERE IS GOING
TO BE ANY HELP FINDING
YOUR MISSING FRIEND,
HENRI.

* THE X-MEN TRAVELLED
TO VALHALLA WITH
RAVAGE IN RAVAGE #15.
--JOEY



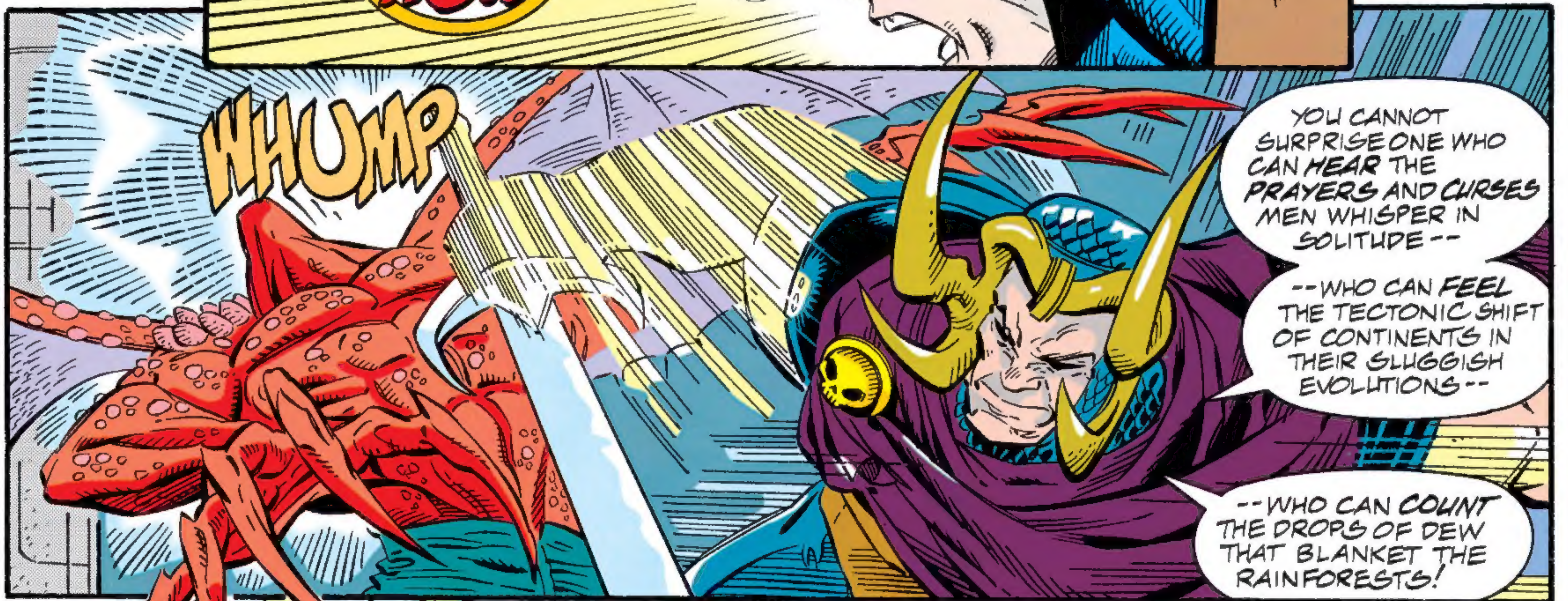
GOD OR
MAN--

--YOU
WILL NOT
STOP ME
AGAIN!

THIS PLACE IS AN
ABOMINATION THAT
SUCKS THE LIFE
FROM THE EARTH
AND SKY!



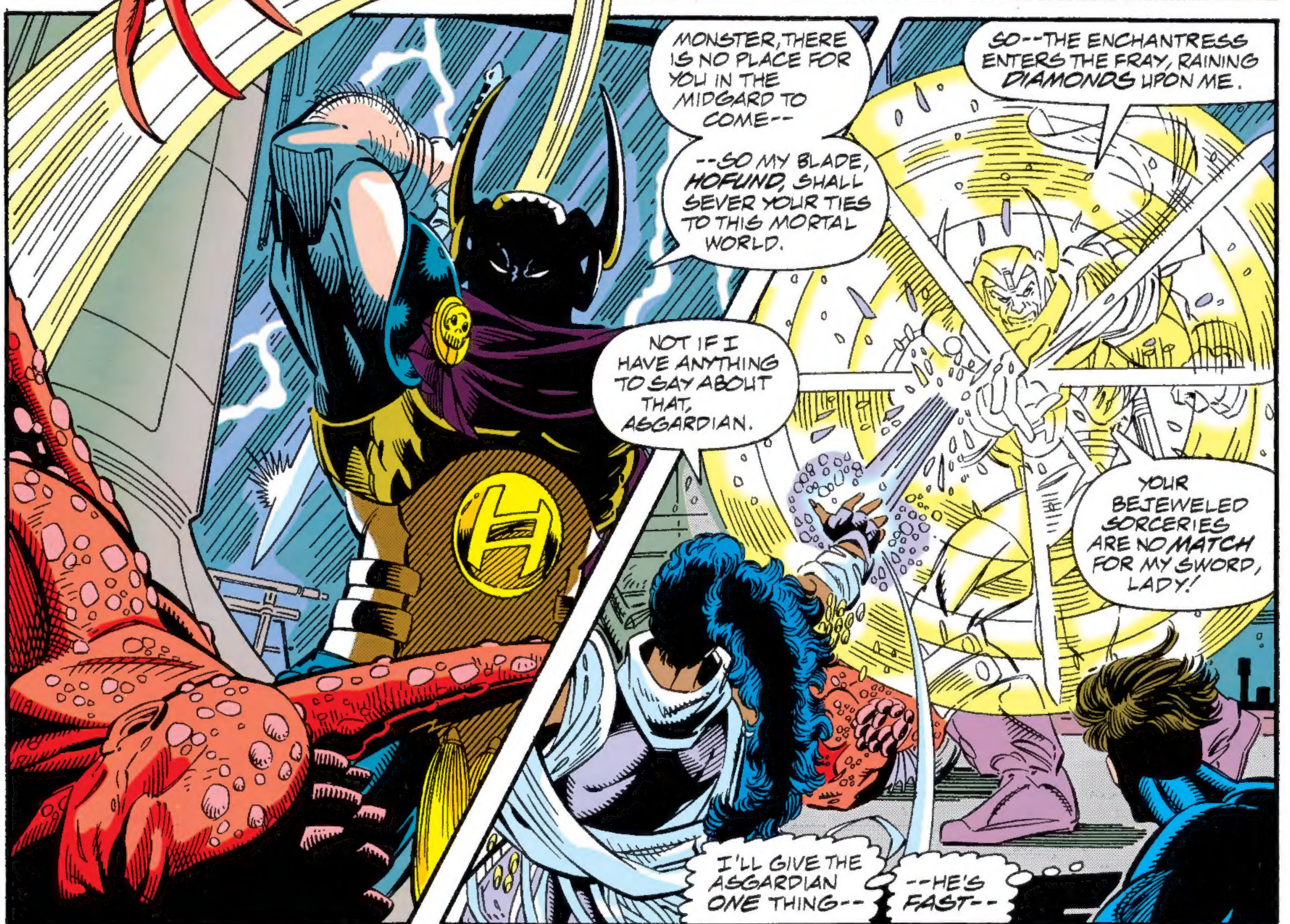
HAWK,
NO!!



YOU CANNOT
SURPRISE ONE WHO
CAN HEAR THE
PRAYERS AND CURSES
MEN WHISPER IN
SOLITUDE --

--WHO CAN FEEL
THE TECTONIC SHIFT
OF CONTINENTS IN
THEIR SLUGGISH
EVOLUTIONS --

--WHO CAN COUNT
THE DROPS OF DEW
THAT BLANKET THE
RAINFORESTS!



MONSTER, THERE
IS NO PLACE FOR
YOU IN THE
MIDGARD TO
COME--

--SO MY BLADE,
HOFUND, SHALL
SEVER YOUR TIES
TO THIS MORTAL
WORLD.

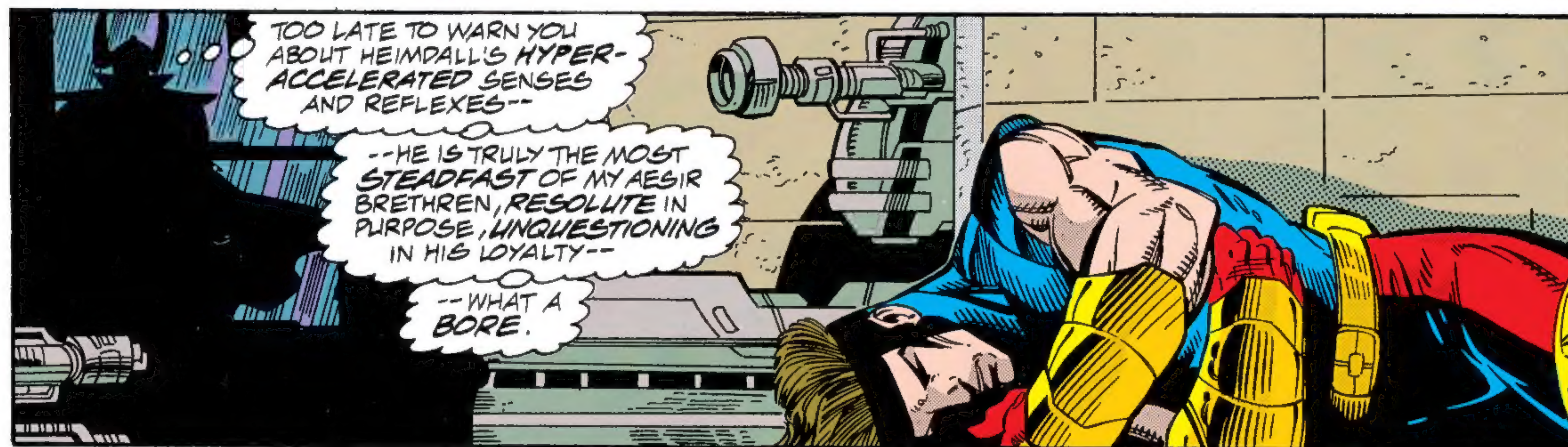
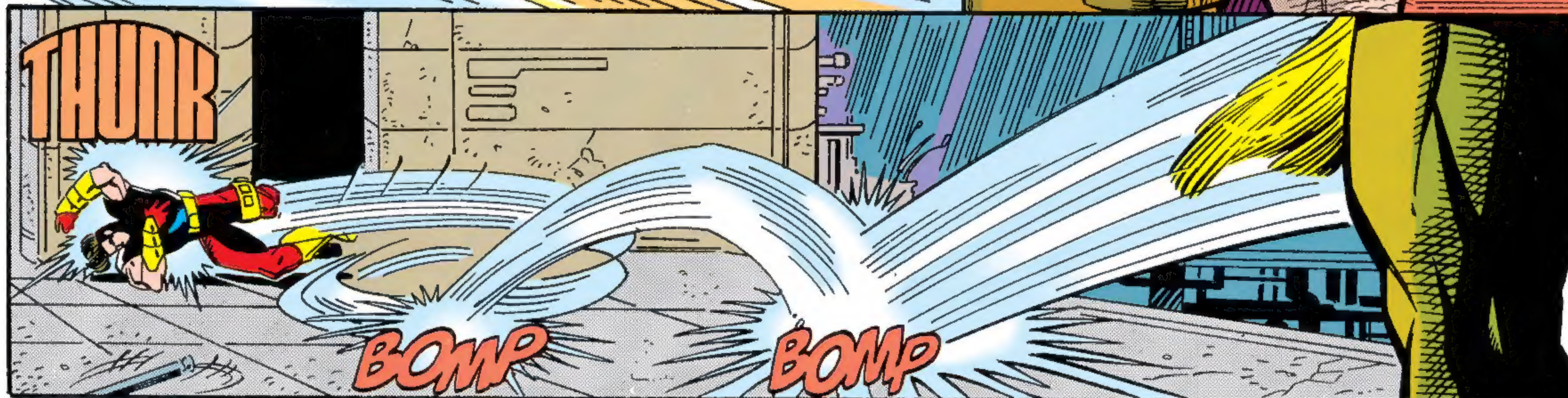
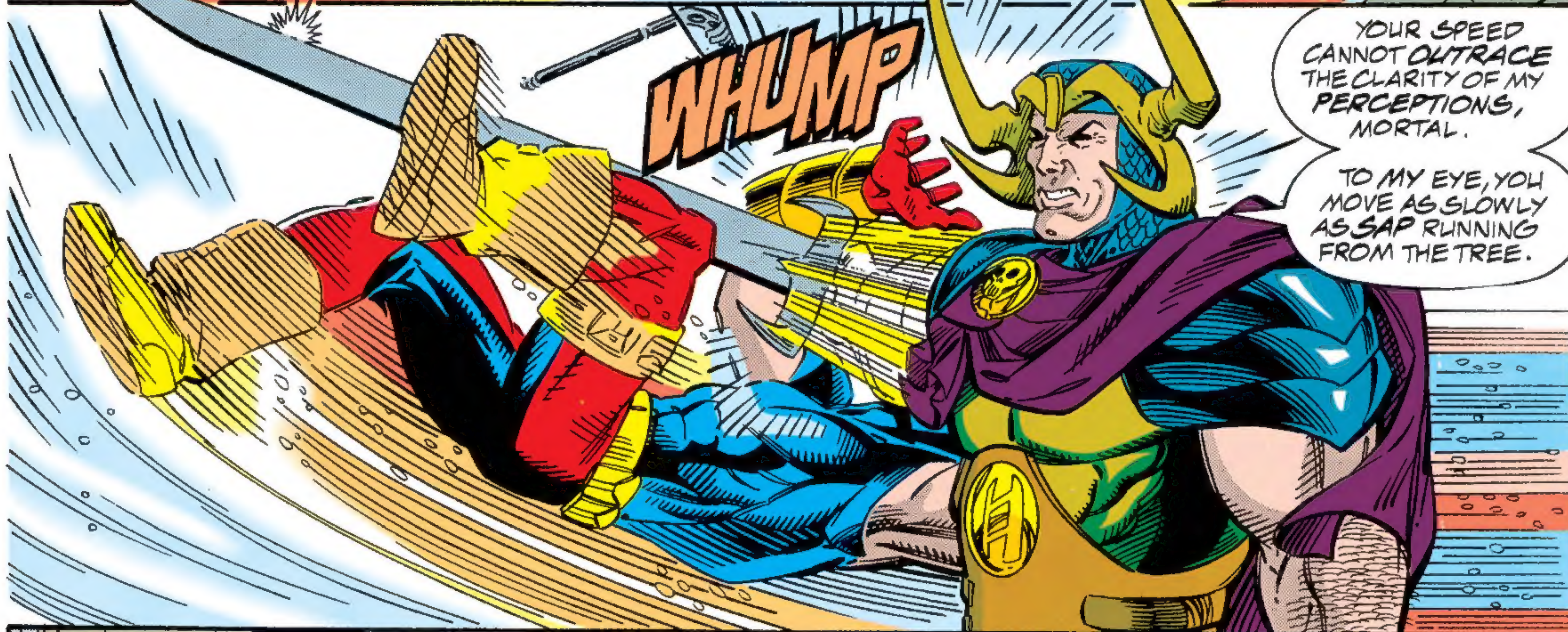
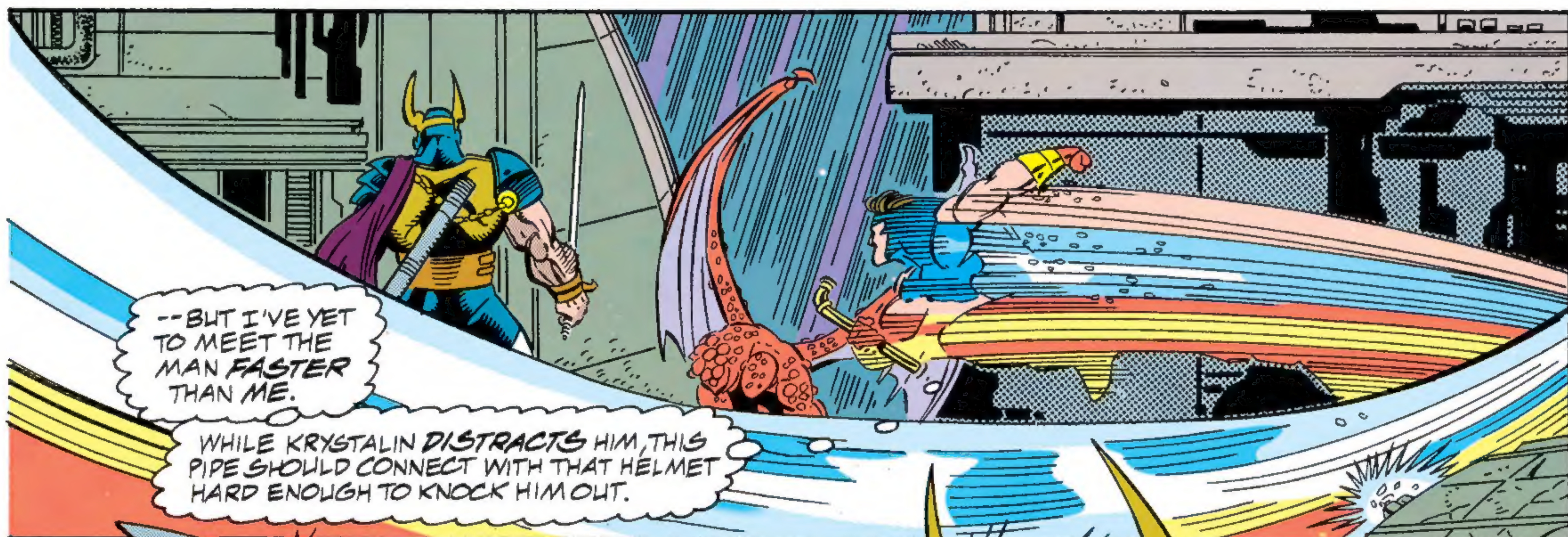
NOT IF I
HAVE ANYTHING
TO SAY ABOUT
THAT,
ASGARDIAN.

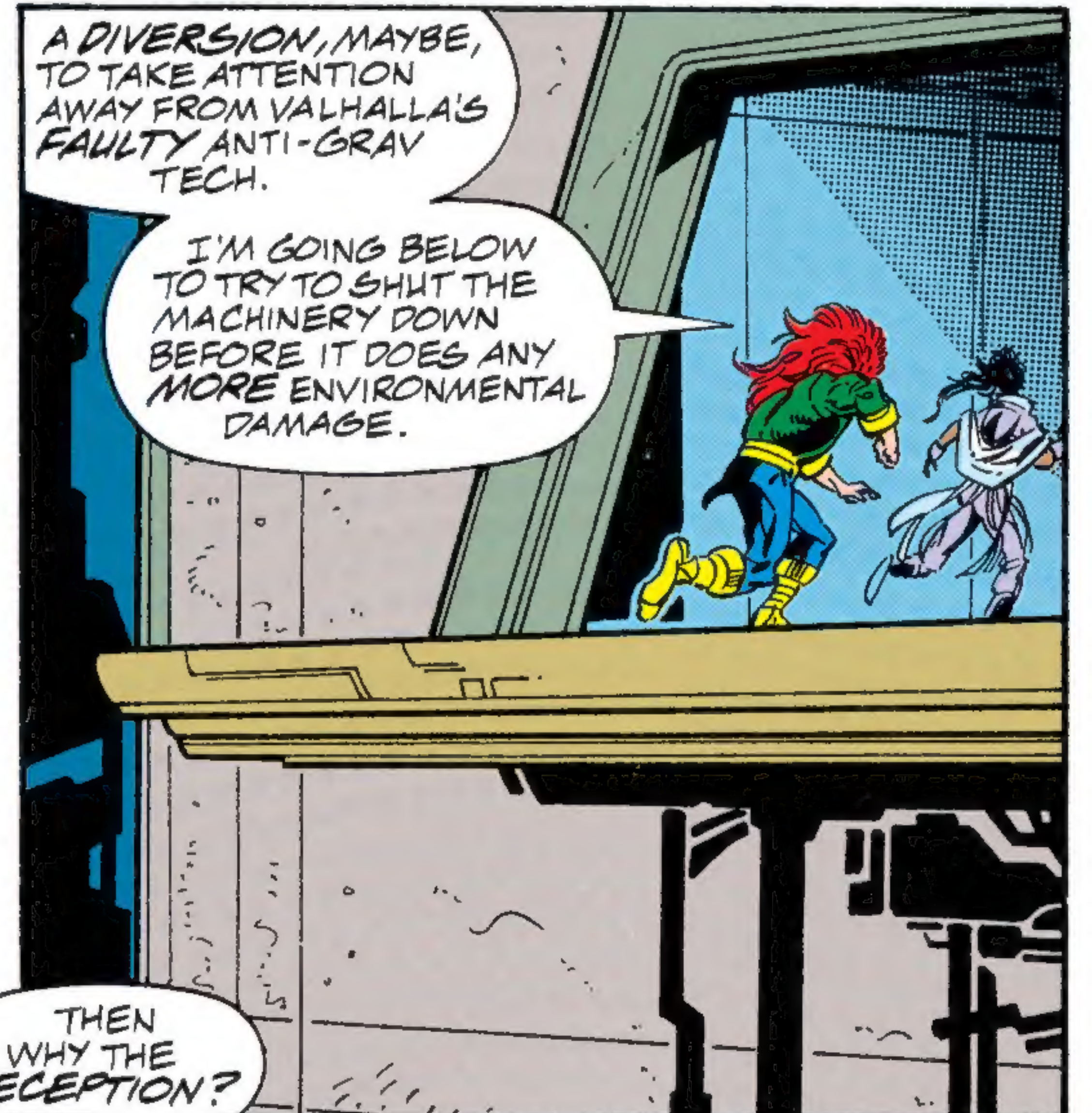
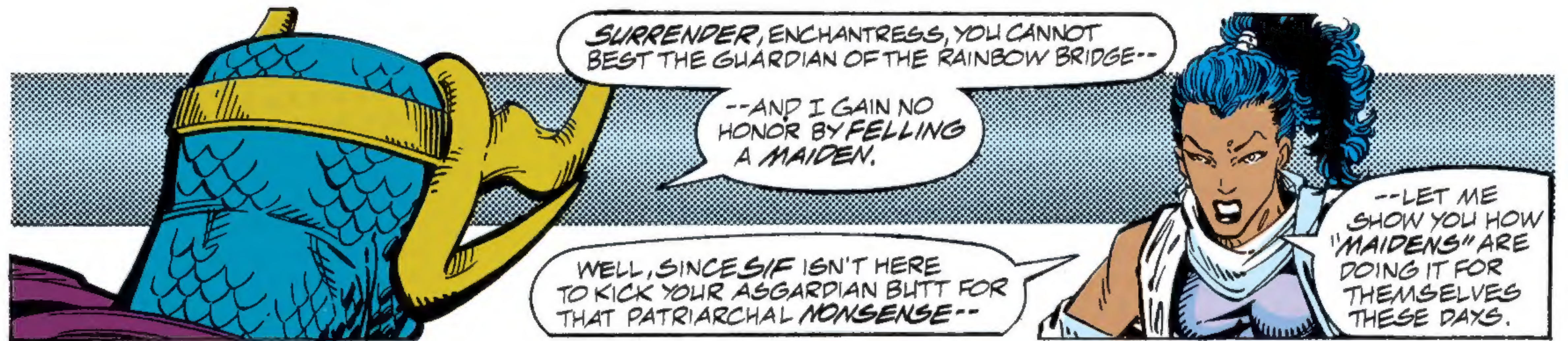
SO--THE ENCHANTRESS
ENTERS THE FRAY, RAINING
DIAMONDS UPON ME.

YOUR
BEJEWELLED
SORCERIES
ARE NO MATCH
FOR MY SWORD,
LADY!

I'LL GIVE THE
ASGARDIAN
ONE THING--

--HE'S
FAST--







MY MOTHER DIED
BELIEVING THOR
WOULD ONE DAY
RETURN AND SAVE
THE WORLD.

I NEVER COUNTED
ON THAT, BUT I
ALWAYS ADMIRER
HER CONVICTION.

I WEAR HER
Mjolnir TO
REMINDE ME OF
HER STRENGTH.

I'M GLAD SHE DIDN'T
LIVE TO SEE PRETENDERS
TWIST THE FAITH THAT
SUSTAINED HER THROUGH
HER LAST DAYS.

BUT IF
THESE AREN'T
THE REAL
AESIR--

WHO
ARE
THEY?

KRAKATHOOM

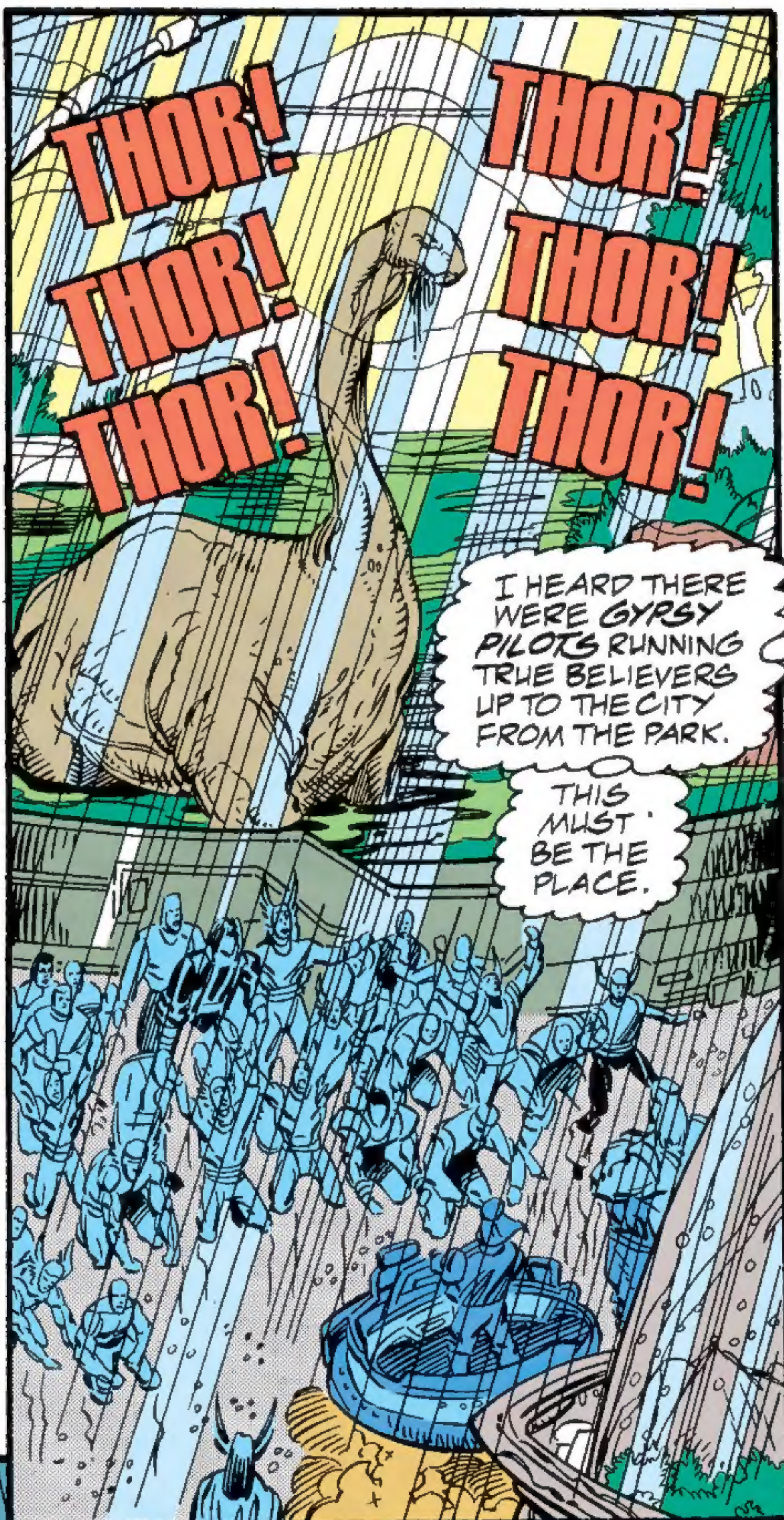
PRAISE BE--
HE WATCHES
US FROM THE
SKY!

--HAS
RETURNED
TO BRING THE
CLEANSING
STORM UPON
US--

--PURIFIED AND
SANCTIFIED, THE
CHOSEN SHALL SOON
JOIN HIM IN
VALHALLA--

--ALL HAIL
THE GOD OF
THUNDER.

--THE LORD OF
LIGHTNING--

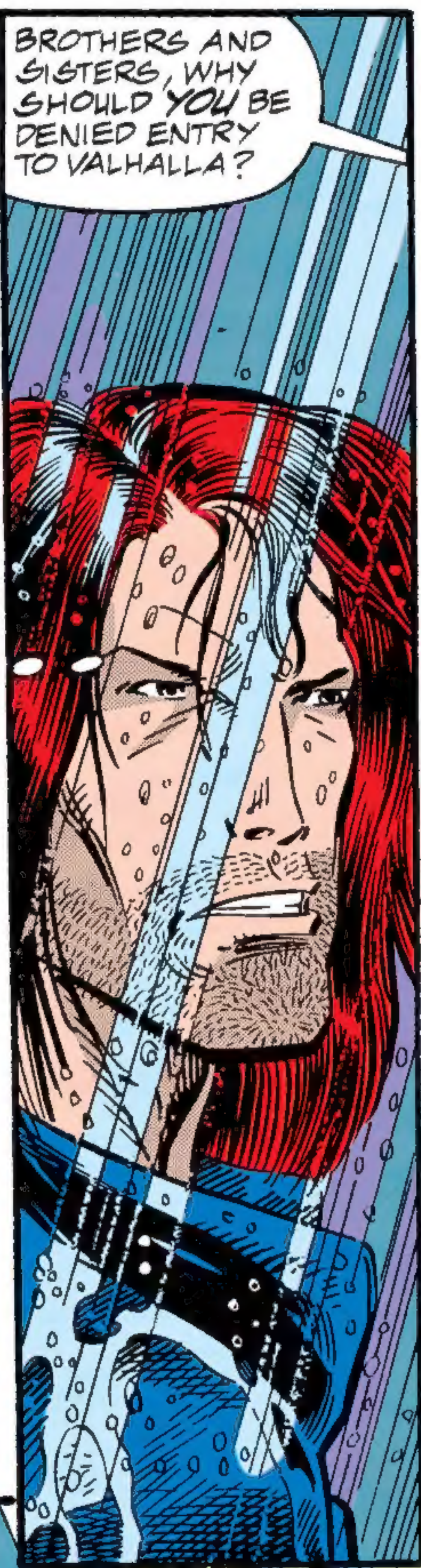


**THOR!
THOR!
THOR!**

**THOR!
THOR!
THOR!**

I HEARD THERE WERE GYRSY PILOTS RUNNING TRUE BELIEVERS UP TO THE CITY FROM THE PARK.

THIS MUST BE THE PLACE.



BROTHERS AND SISTERS, WHY SHOULD YOU BE DENIED ENTRY TO VALHALLA?



LET THE VALKYRIE SPIRIT YOU TO YOUR RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THE HALL OF HEROES.

MY VAL'S A GENUINE STARK/FUTIKAWA AIRCAB GUARANTEED TO AID IN YOUR ASCENSION TO THE ASSGARDIAN PLANE--

--FOR ONLY A MERE THOUSAND BUCKS.

A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR YOUR DESERVED SPIRITUAL REWARD.

THIS GUY'S MILKING THE CROWD FOR ALL HE CAN GET--

--BUT HE'S MY TICKET UP TO THE FLOATING CITY...

'SCUSE ME.



HEY, TROLL, YOU WANNA ASCEND, WAIT IN LINE LIKE THE REST OF US.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, MY FRIENDS' LIVES ARE AT STAKE!

YOU WEAR NONE OF THE RAINMENT OF THE FAITHFUL, YOU ARE NOT ONE OF US!

LARDBUTT, I DON'T EVEN BELIEVE IN THOR.



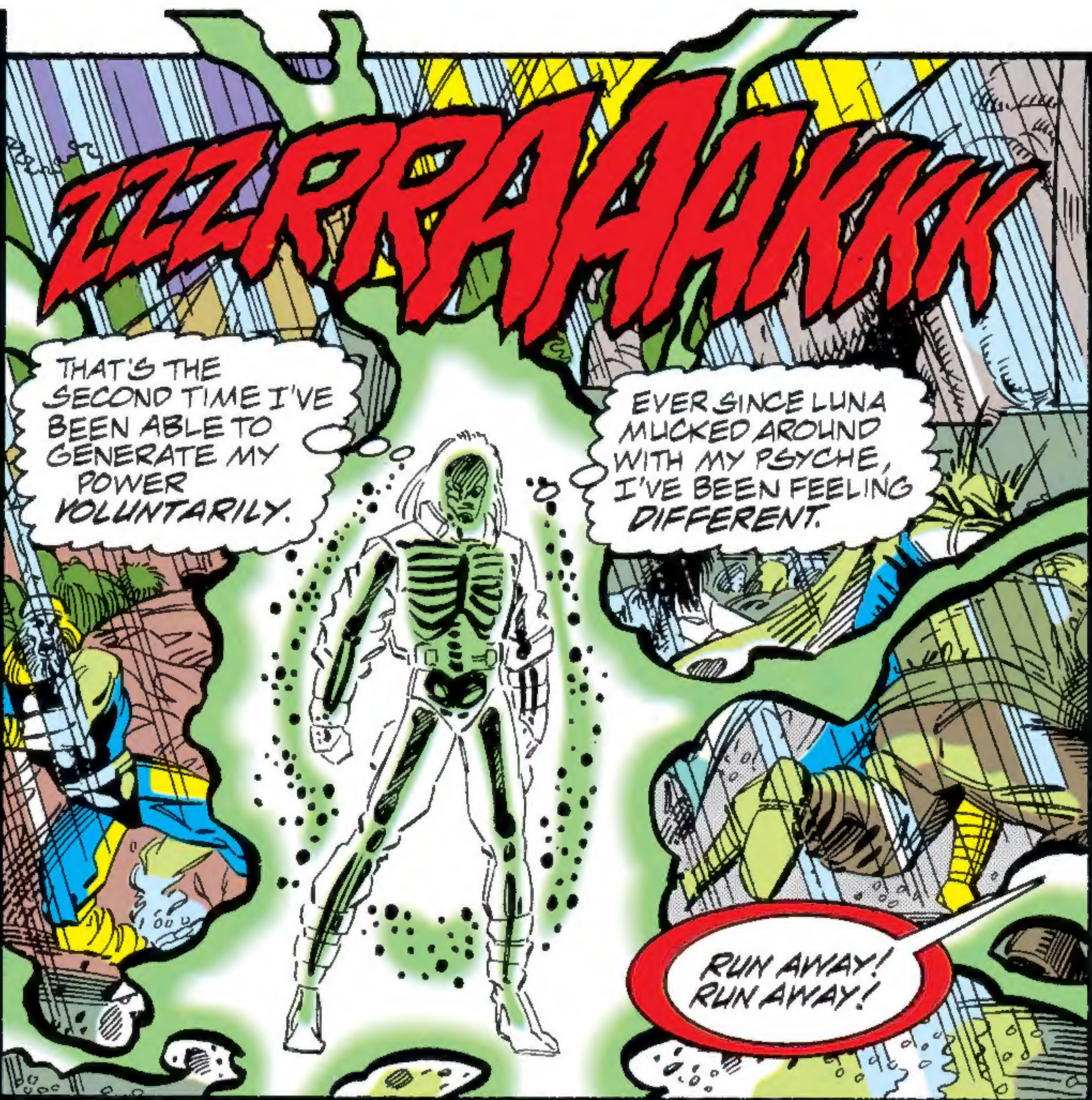
YOU BLASPHEME THE ONE TRUE SAVIOR.

YOU NEED TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON IN THE WAY OF THE HAMMER.



YOU WANT
A GOD OF
LIGHTNING?

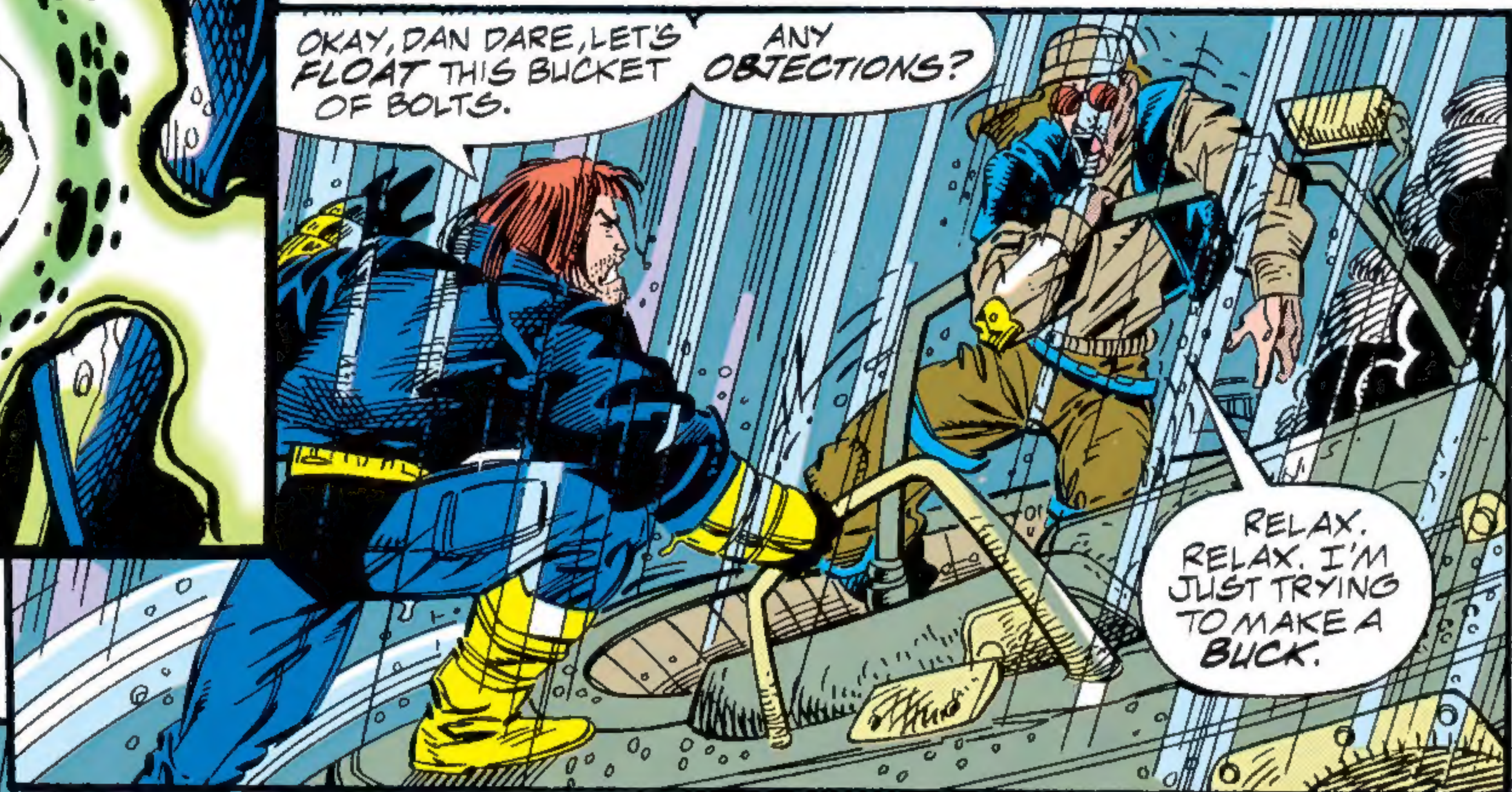
I'LL
GIVE YOU
ONE!



THAT'S THE
SECOND TIME I'VE
BEEN ABLE TO
GENERATE MY
POWER
VOLUNTARILY.

EVER SINCE LUNA
MUCKED AROUND
WITH MY PSYCHE,
I'VE BEEN FEELING
DIFFERENT.

RUN AWAY!
RUN AWAY!



OKAY, DAN DARE, LET'S
FLOAT THIS BUCKET
OF BOLTS.

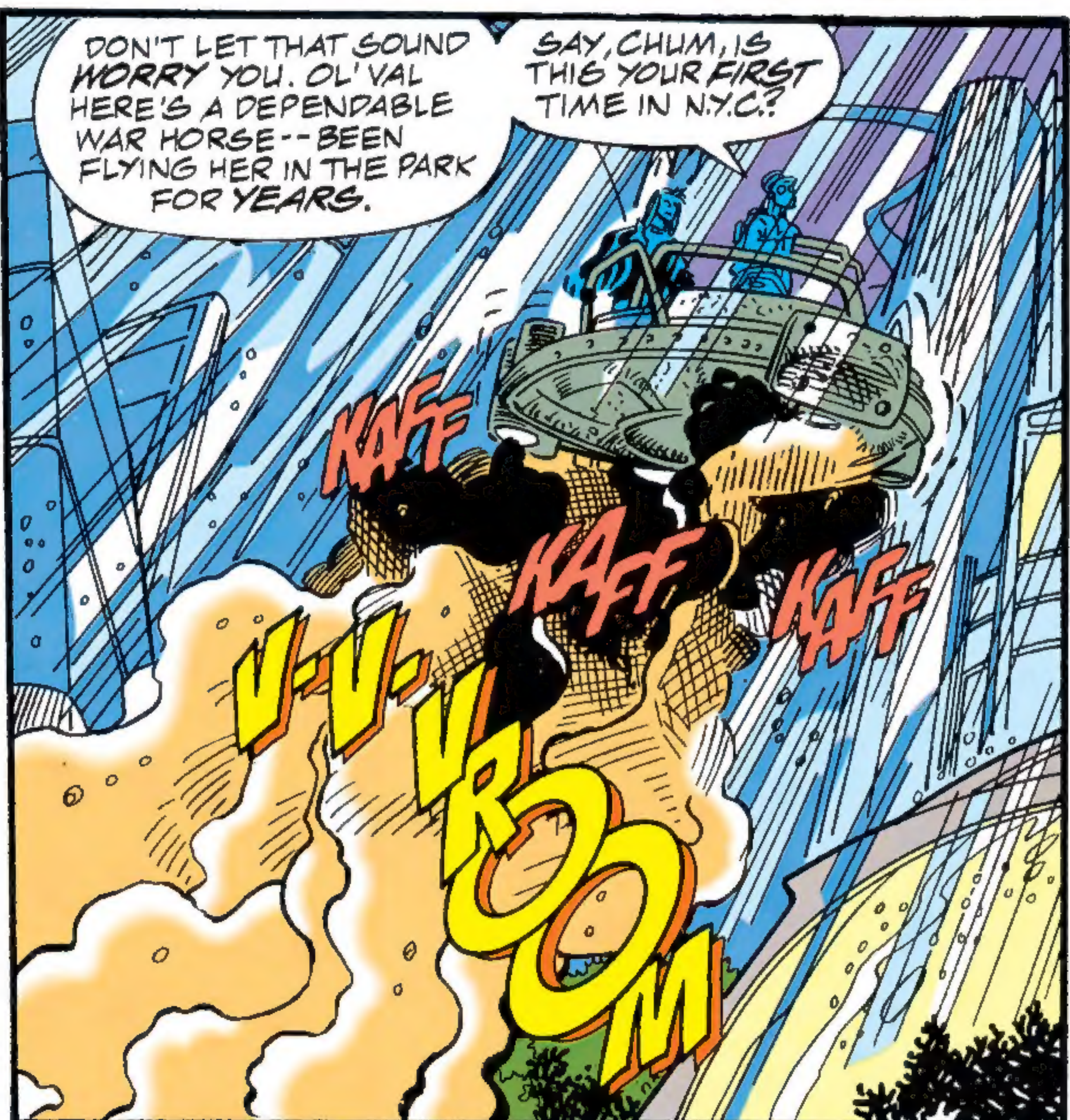
ANY
OBJECTIONS?

RELAX.
RELAX. I'M
JUST TRYING
TO MAKE A
BUCK.



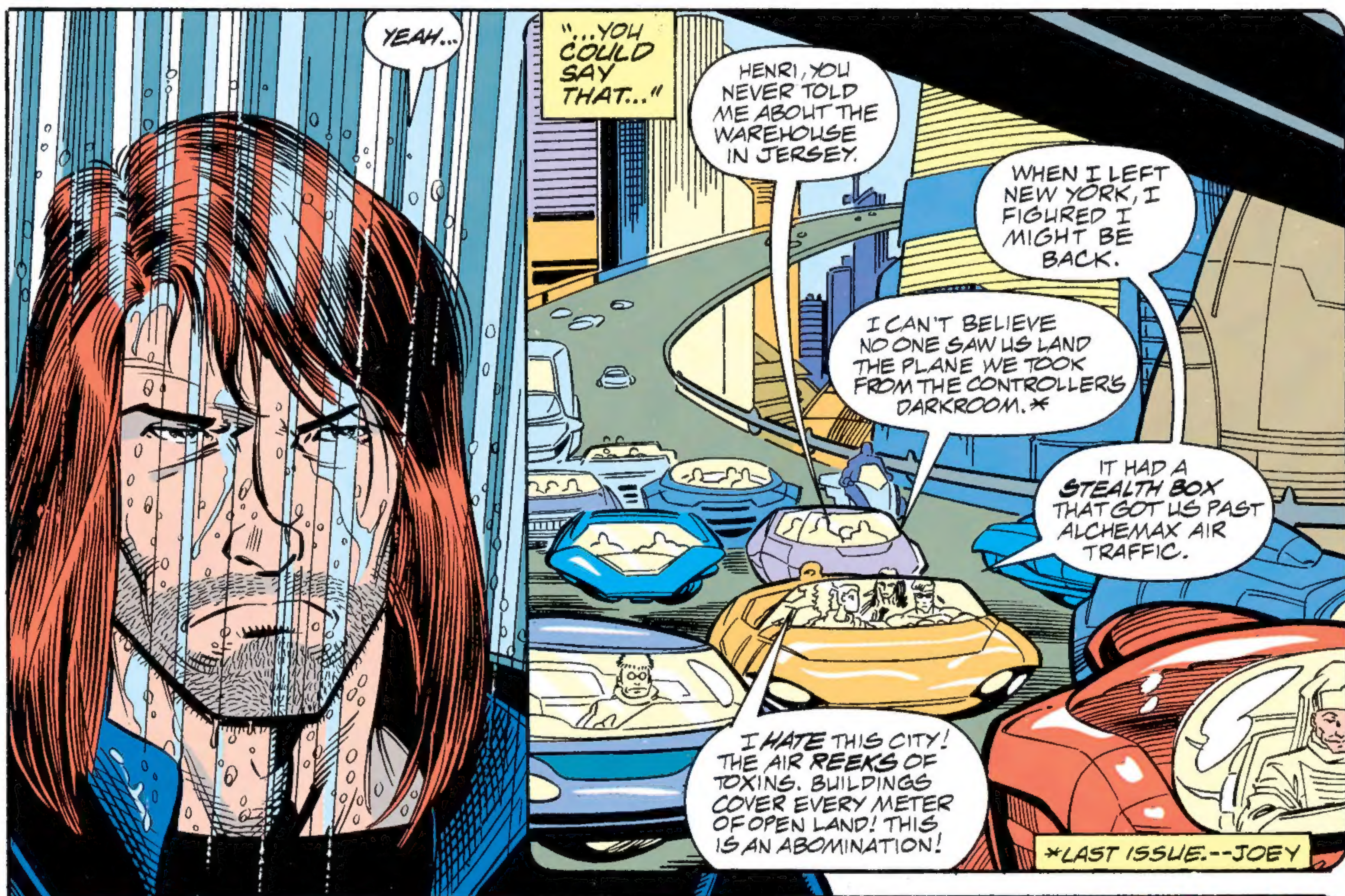
I DON'T
HAVE ANY
MONEY.

FOR YOU,
PAL, IT'S
ON THE
HOUSE.



DON'T LET THAT SOUND
WORRY YOU. OL' VAL
HERE'S A DEPENDABLE
WAR HORSE--BEEN
FLYING HER IN THE PARK
FOR YEARS.

SAY, CHUM, IS
THIS YOUR FIRST
TIME IN N.Y.C.?



BOONE AND I DESIGNED OUR OWN PERSONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.

WE DIDN'T WANT ALCHEMAX KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT OUR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

HOPE THIS STILL WORKS.

HOW DARE YOU ENTER WITHOUT PERMISSION?

DOWN ON YOUR KNEES, SCHM.

CHILL, SERINA. ACTIVATE VOICE I.D.

ACTIVATED. GREETINGS, HENRI HUANG.

WHERE'S BOONE, SERINA? OVERRIDE INFOLOCKS.

I HAVE BEEN UNAWARE OF JORDAN'S WHEREABOUTS FOR TWENTY TWO DAYS.

DON'T YOU THINK THESE CHEESECAKE ANSWERING MACHINES ARE JUVENILE?

YOU HAVEN'T MET BOONE.

HOW CAN ANYONE LIVE IN THESE TINY BOXES? THE AIR INSIDE IS STALE AND DEAD.

LIGHTEN UP, HAWK. THIS IS A GREAT APARTMENT.

LOOK AT THIS GEL CHAIR. IT MOLDS TO THE CONTOURS OF YOUR BODY. IT'S LIKE FLOATING.

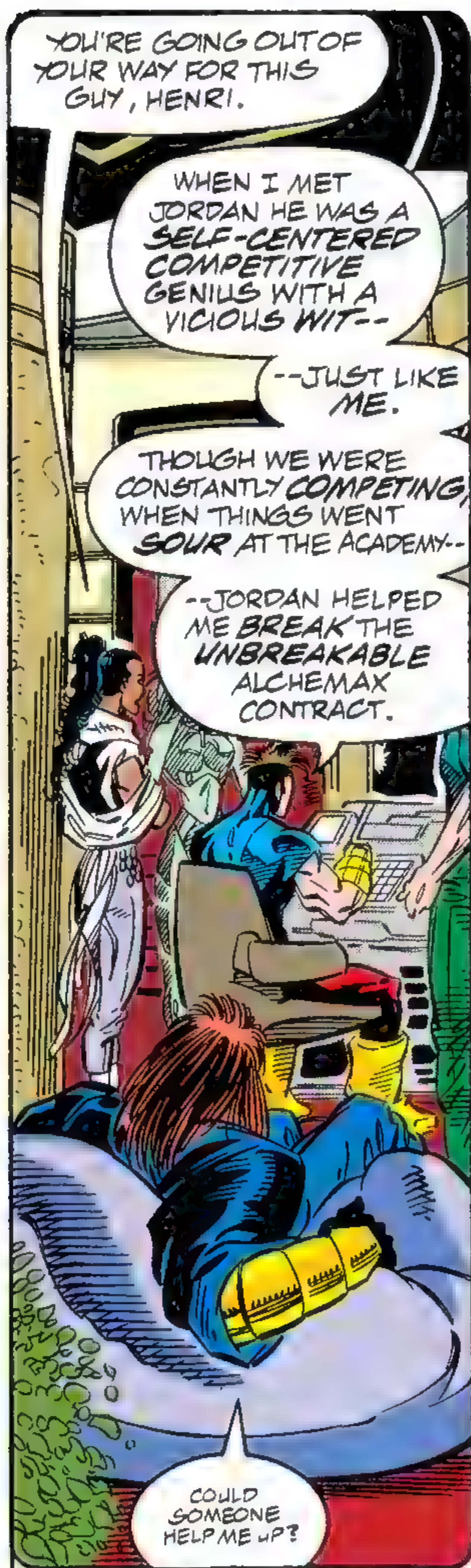
WE NEED JORDAN'S PERSONAL JOURNAL.

HE ALWAYS KEPT ONE WHEN WE WERE ROOMMATES--

--"FOR THE HISTORY ARCHIVES," HE'D SAY.

A-HA! UNDER HIS RICHARDS FOUNDATION AWARD FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS.

IF THIS IS CURRENT, IT SHOULD GIVE US SOME SPECIFICS ABOUT WHAT HE WAS WORKING ON BEFORE HE DISAPPEARED.



YOU'RE GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY FOR THIS GUY, HENRI.

WHEN I MET JORDAN HE WAS A SELF-CENTERED COMPETITIVE GENIUS WITH A VICIOUS WIT--

--JUST LIKE ME.

THOUGH WE WERE CONSTANTLY COMPETING WHEN THINGS WENT SOUR AT THE ACADEMY--

--JORDAN HELPED ME BREAK THE UNBREAKABLE ALCHEMAX CONTRACT.

COULD SOMEONE HELP ME UP?

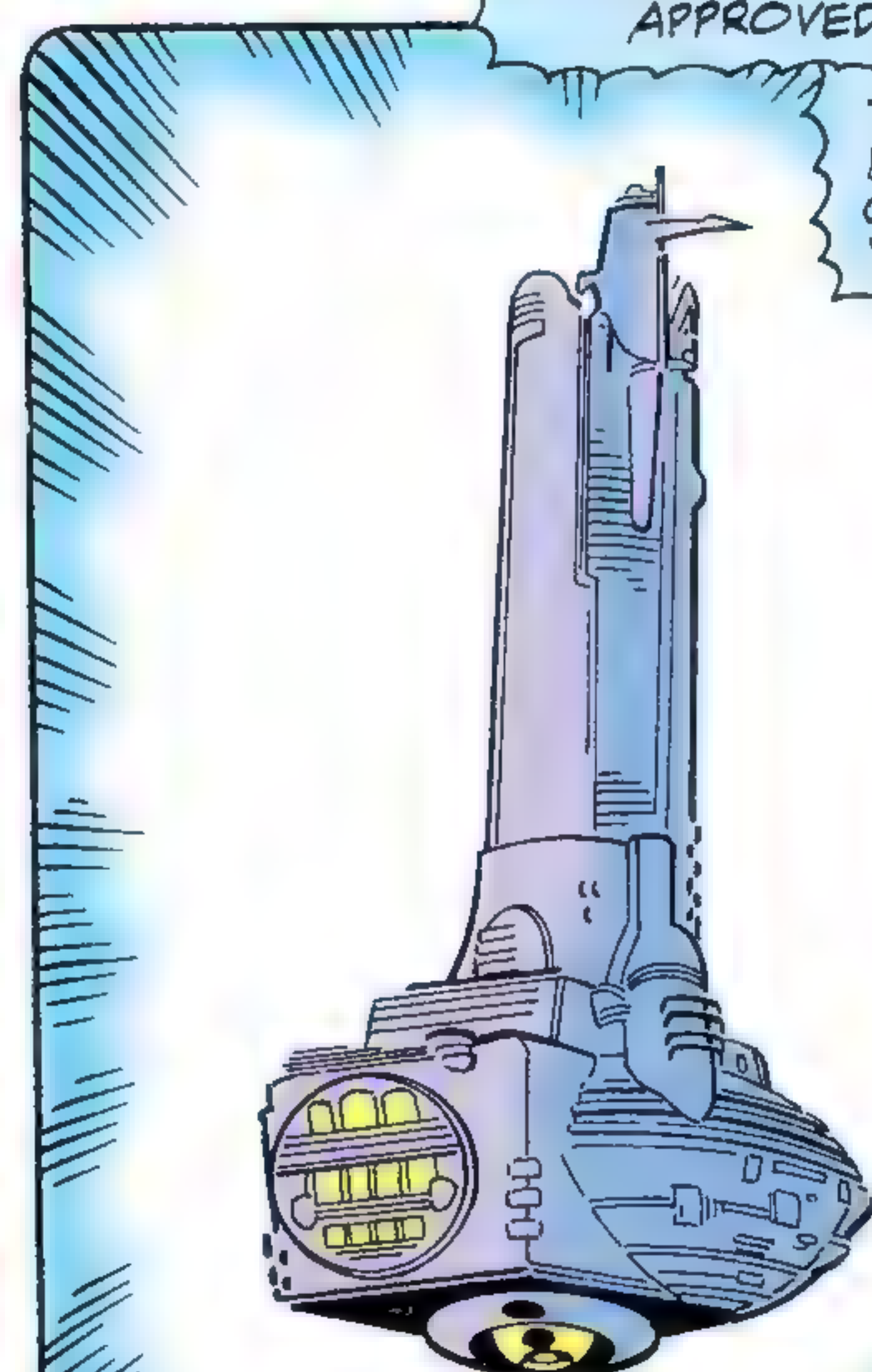
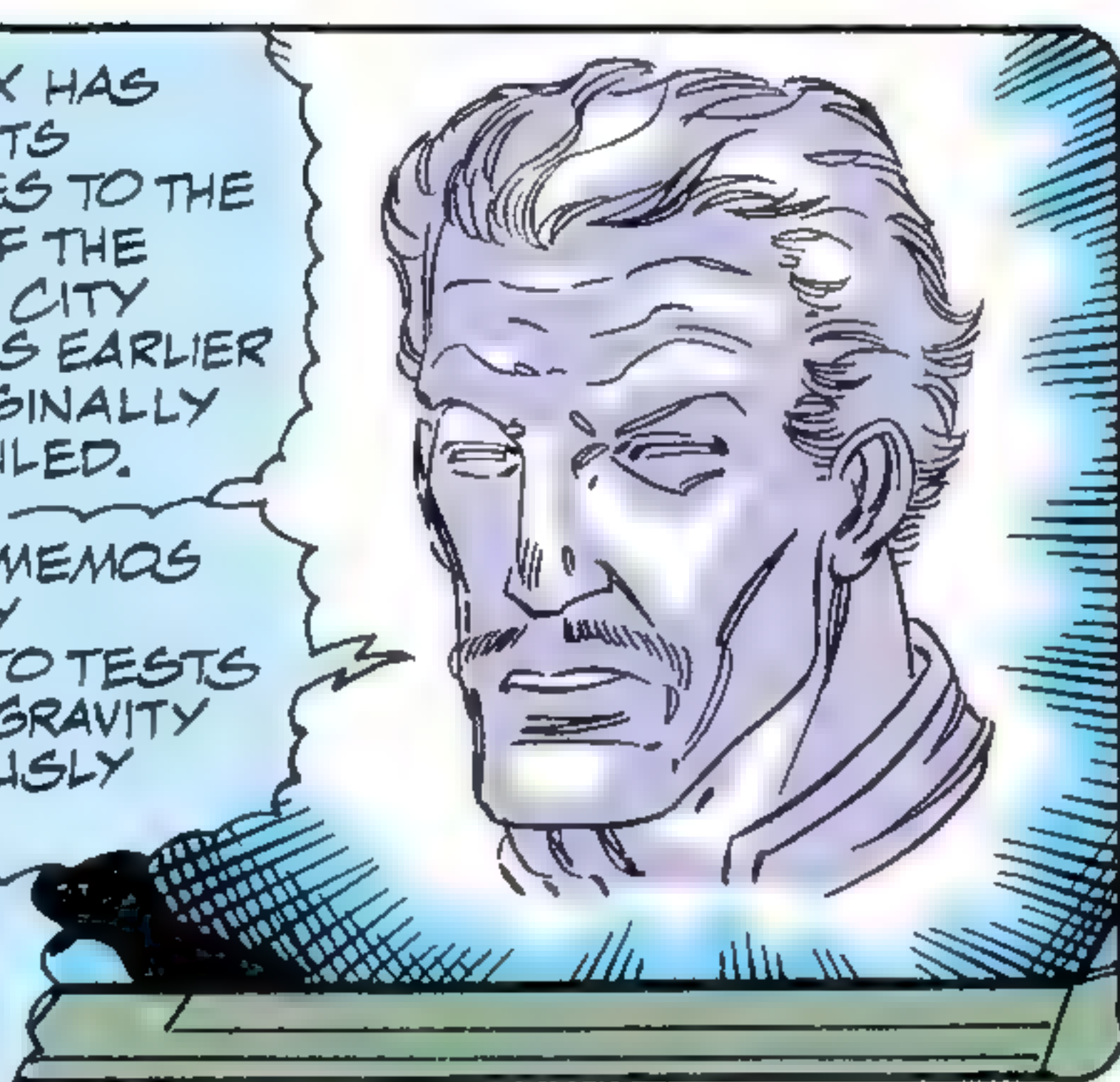


C'MON, BOONE, TELL US SOMETHING WE DON'T KNOW.

ALCHEMAX HAS SHIFTED ITS RESOURCES TO THE LAUNCH OF THE FLOATING CITY TWO YEARS EARLIER THAN ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED.

BUT THE INTERNAL MEMOS I SURREPTITIOUSLY ACCESSED REFER TO TESTS SHOWING THE ANTI-GRAVITY CORE IS DANGEROUSLY UNSTABLE.

THESE DAMAGING TESTS WERE BURIED AT ECO BY THE TOP BRASS SO THAT VALHALLA COULD BE APPROVED.



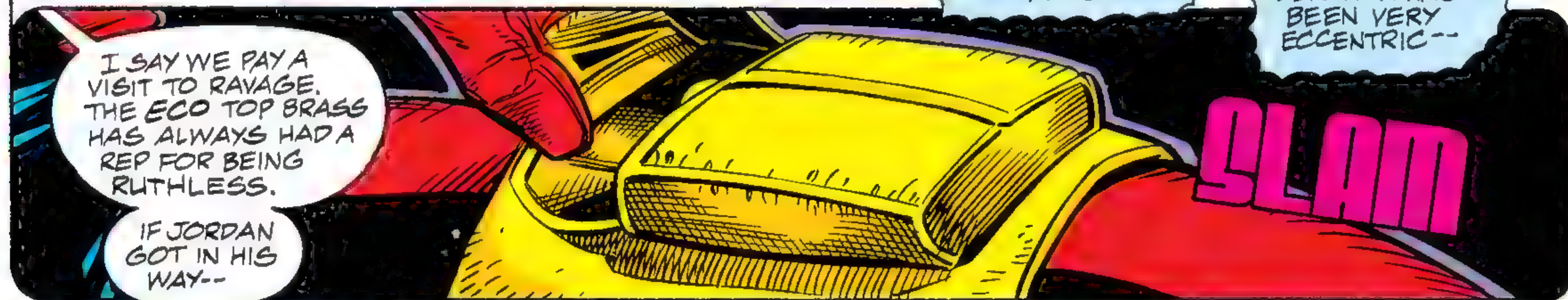
THE ECO OFFICE OF PAUL-PHILIP RAVAGE GREEN-LIGHTED THE VALHALLA PROJECT--

I'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL INVESTIGATING HIS CONNECTION WITH THE COVER-UP.



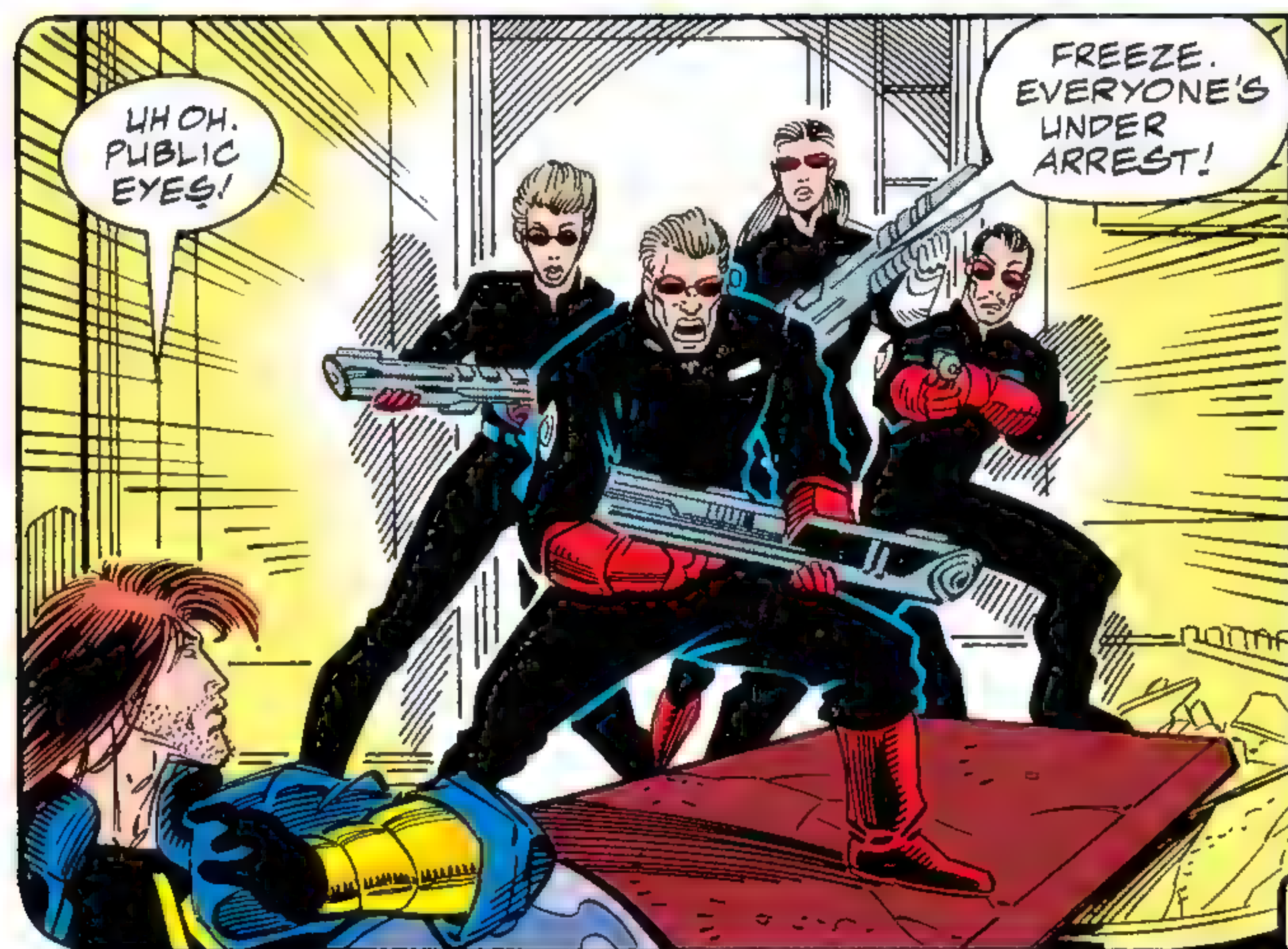
RAVAGE, DESPITE HIS CORPORATE IMAGE, IS A VET OF THE POLLUTION WARS--

--HE'S A DANGEROUS MAN WHOSE RECENT BEHAVIOR HAS BEEN VERY ECCENTRIC--



I SAY WE PAY A VISIT TO RAVAGE. THE ECO TOP BRASS HAS ALWAYS HAD A REP FOR BEING RUTHLESS.

IF JORDAN GOT IN HIS WAY--

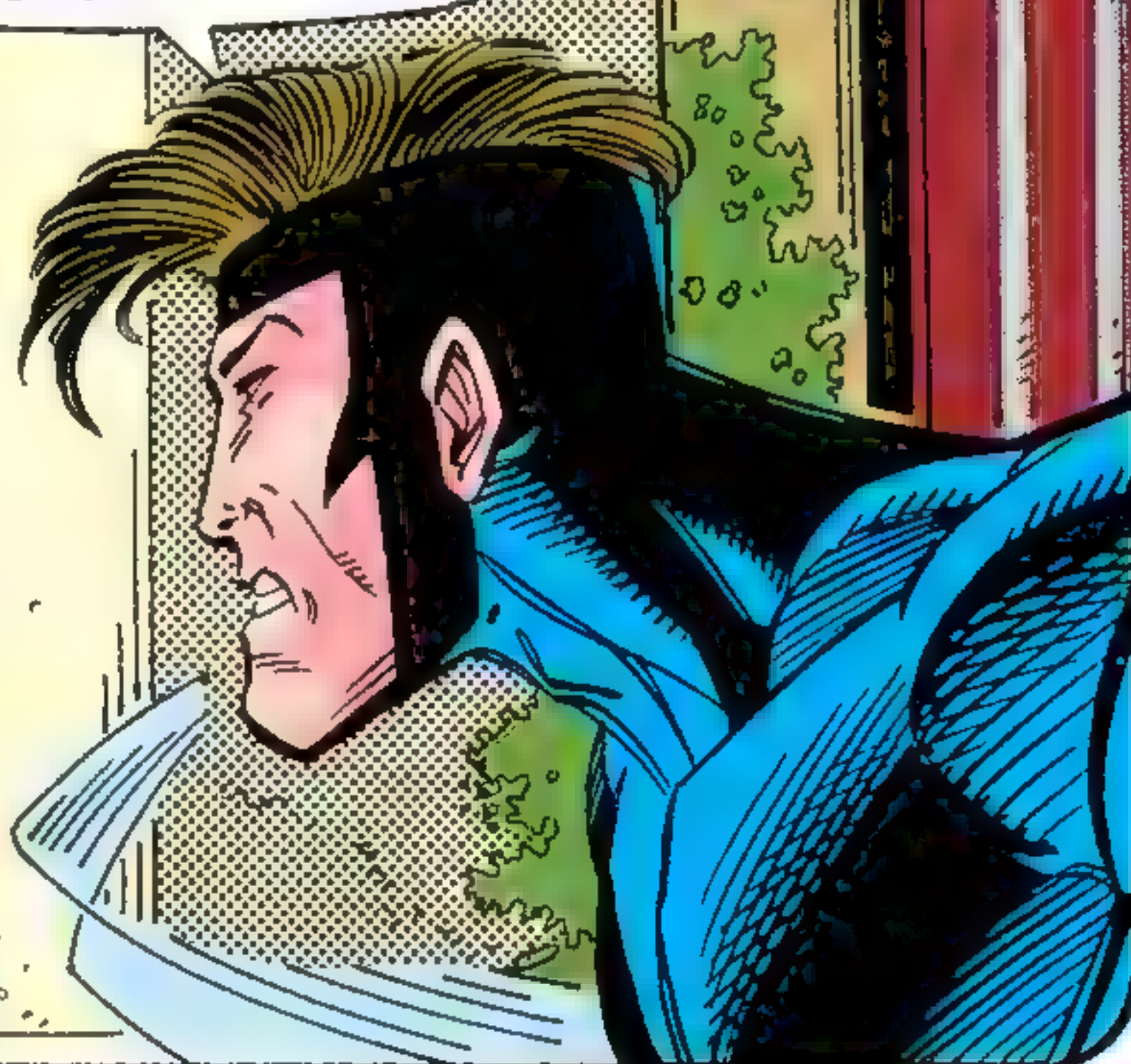


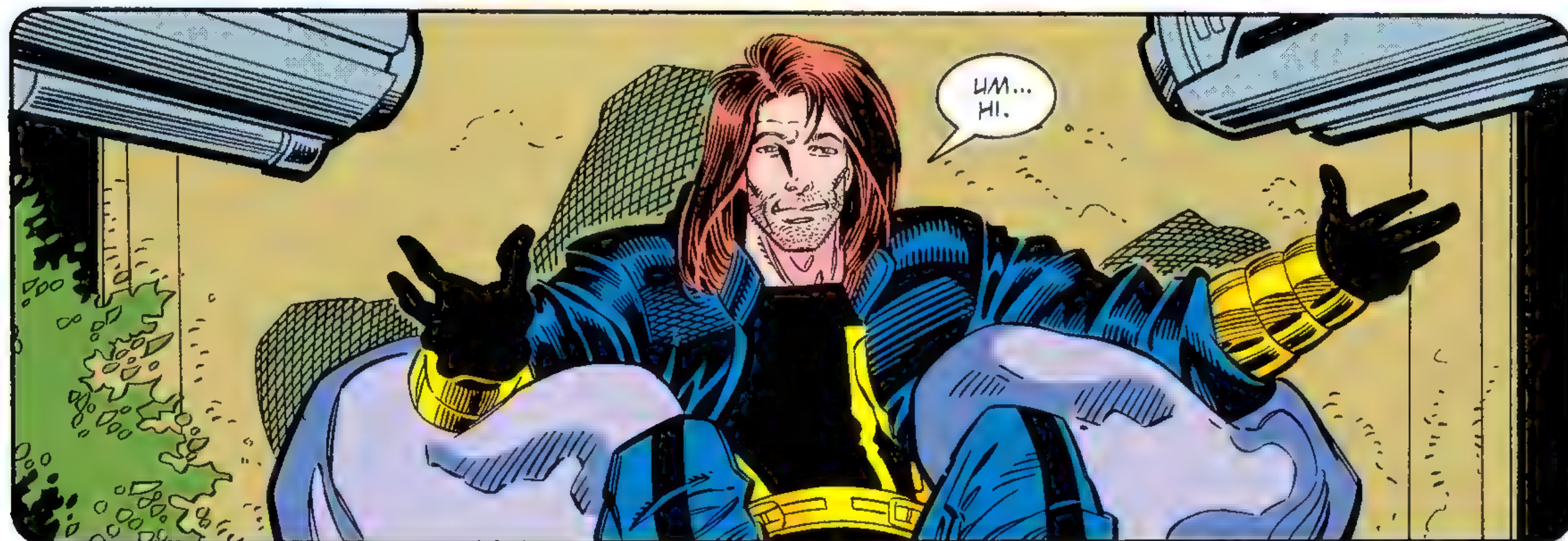
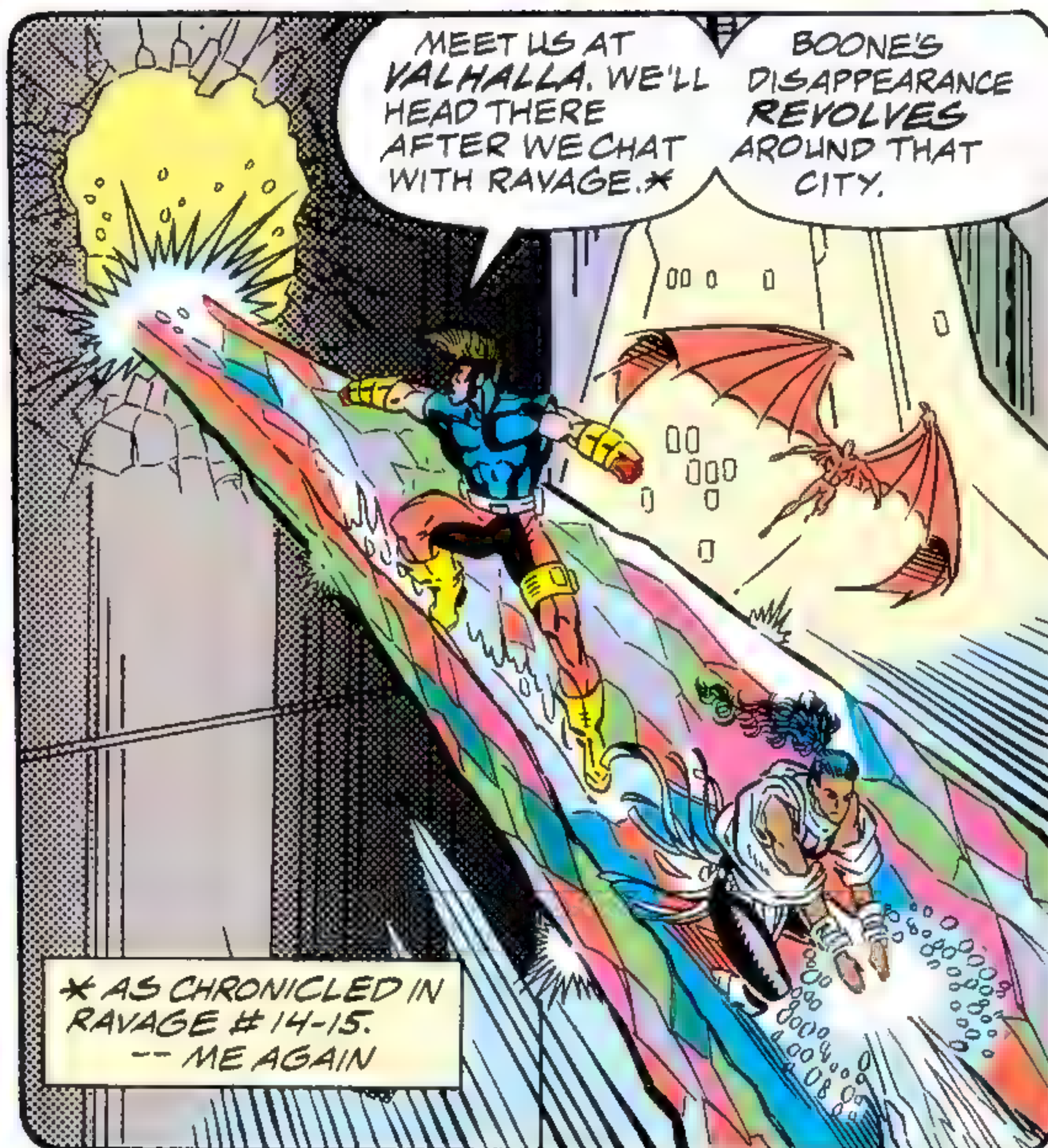
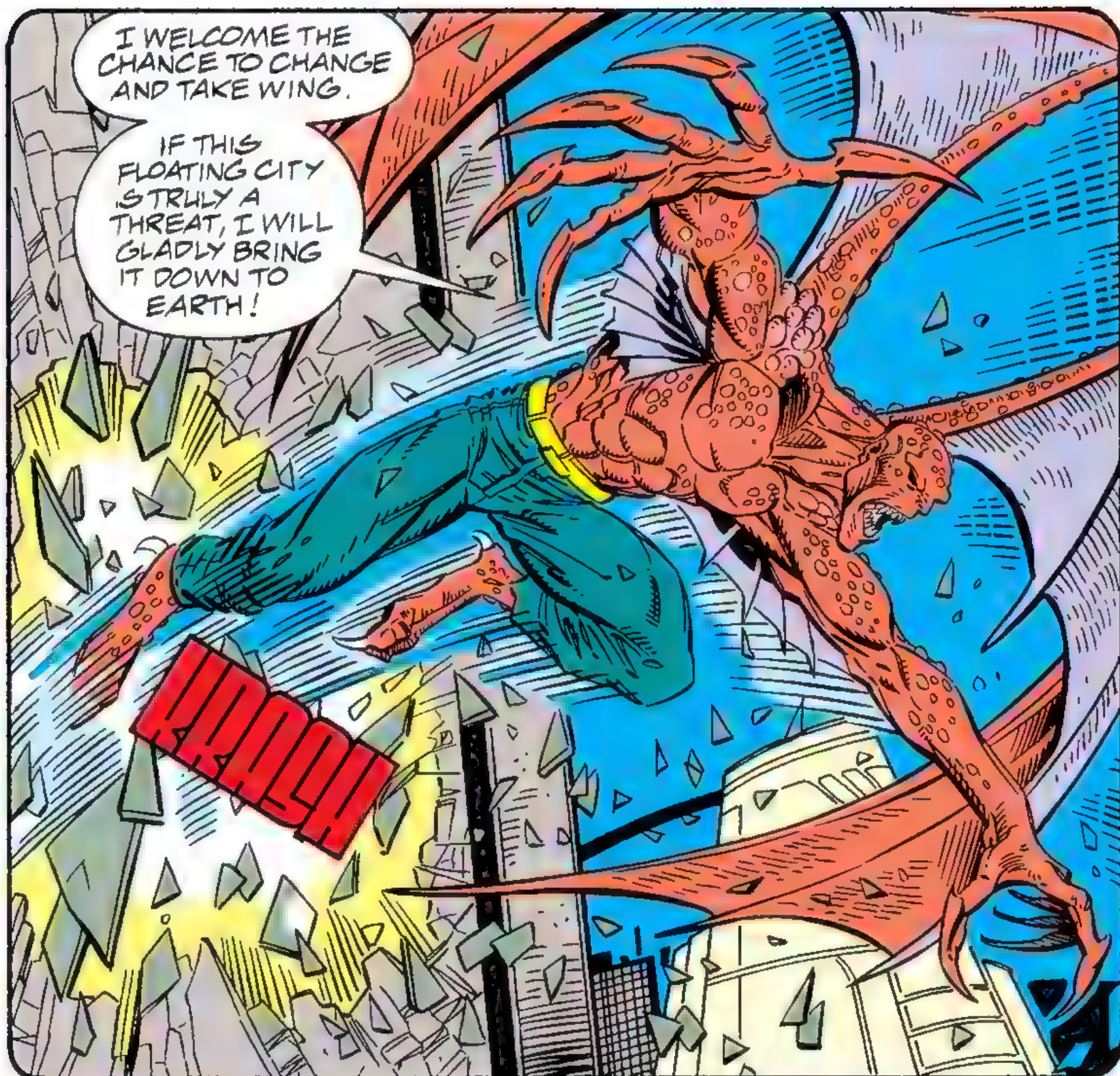
UH OH. PUBLIC EYES!

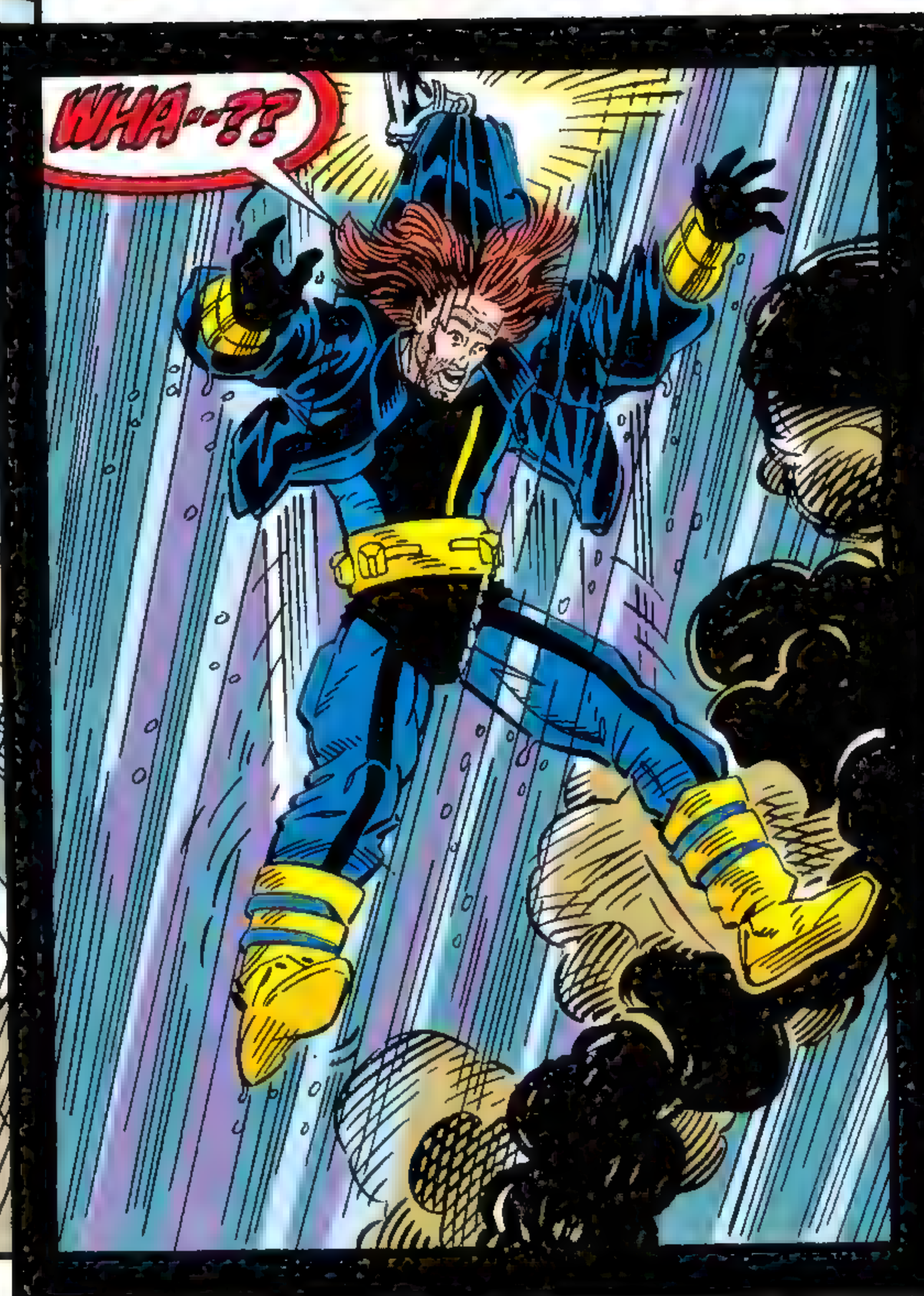
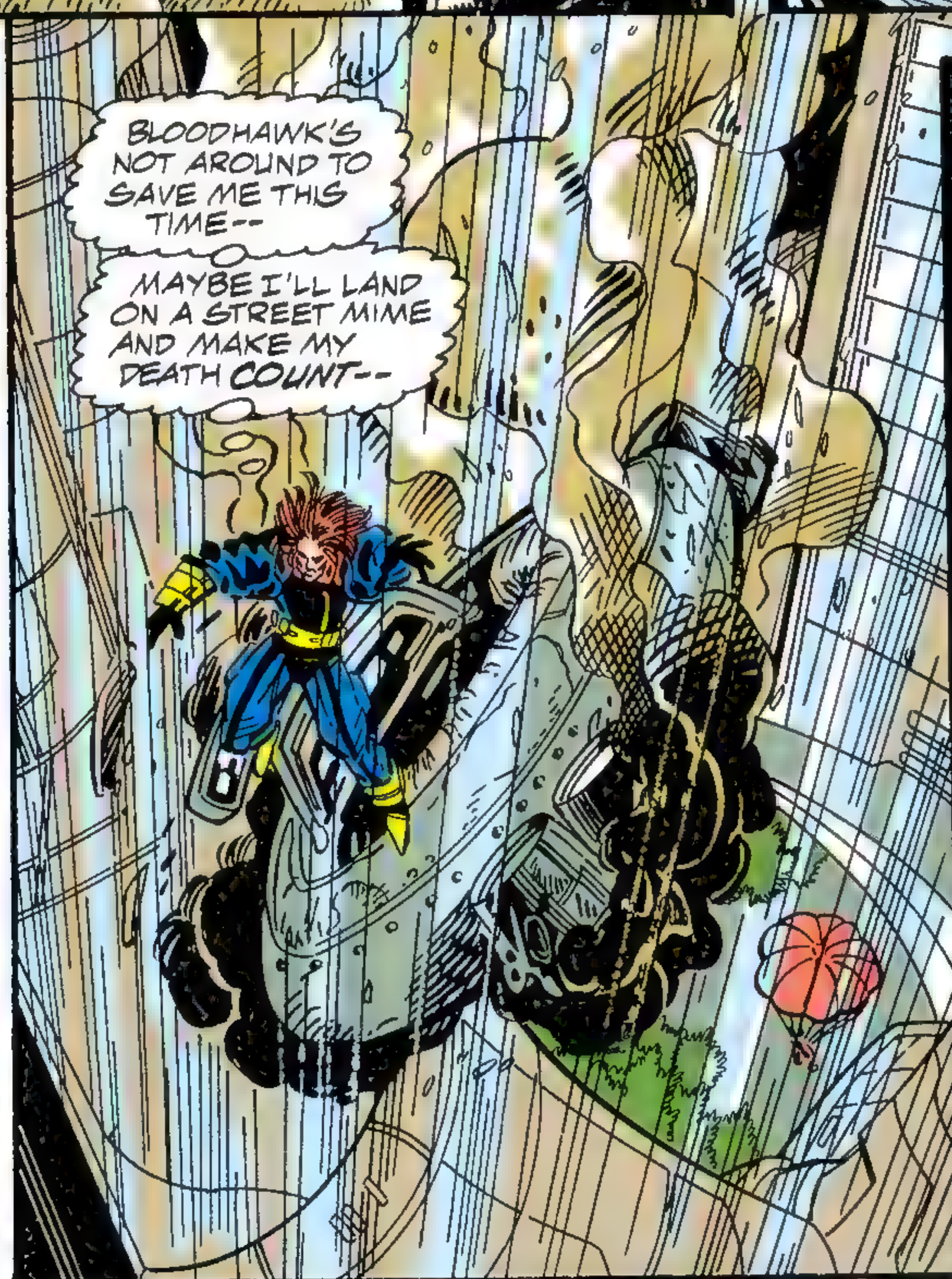
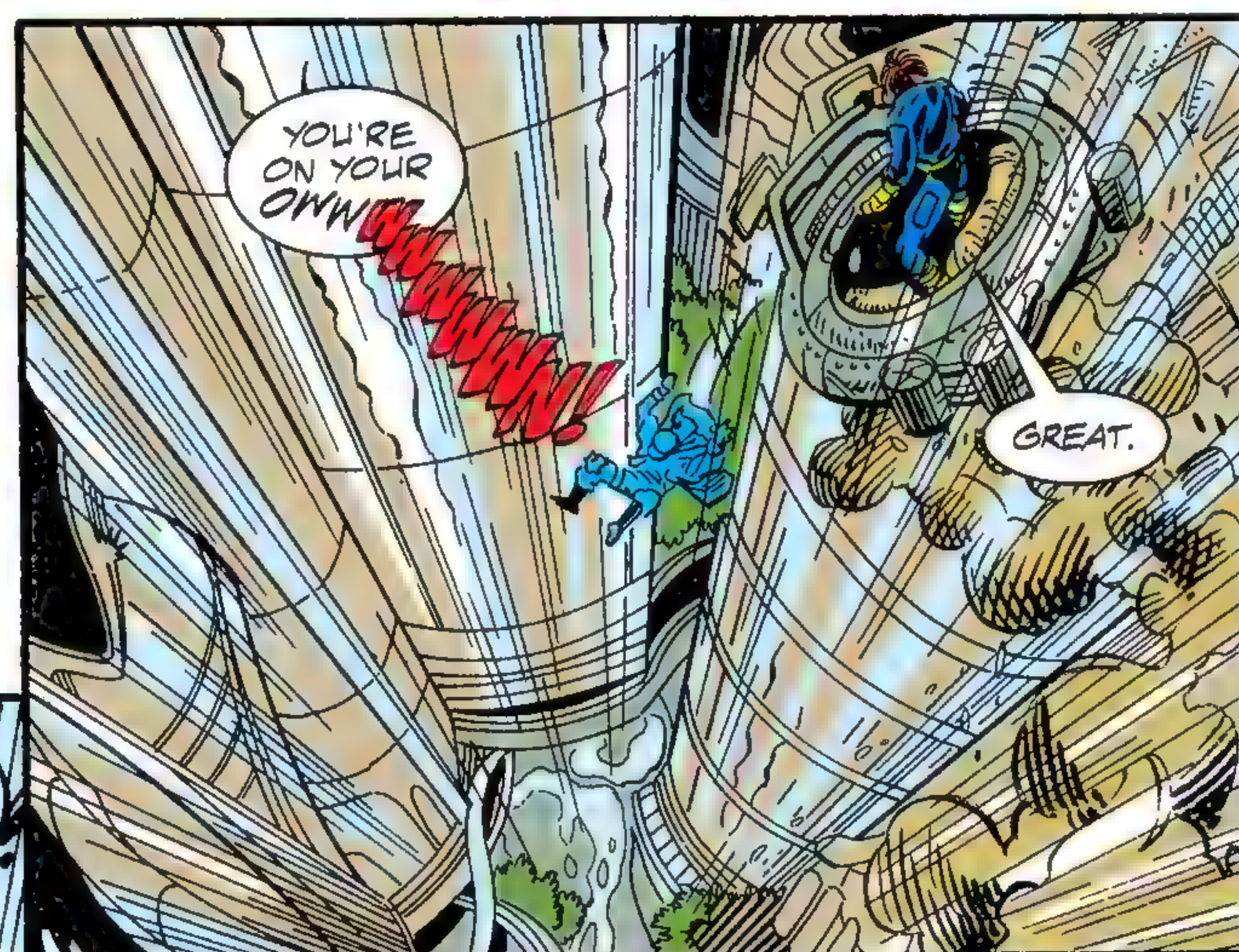
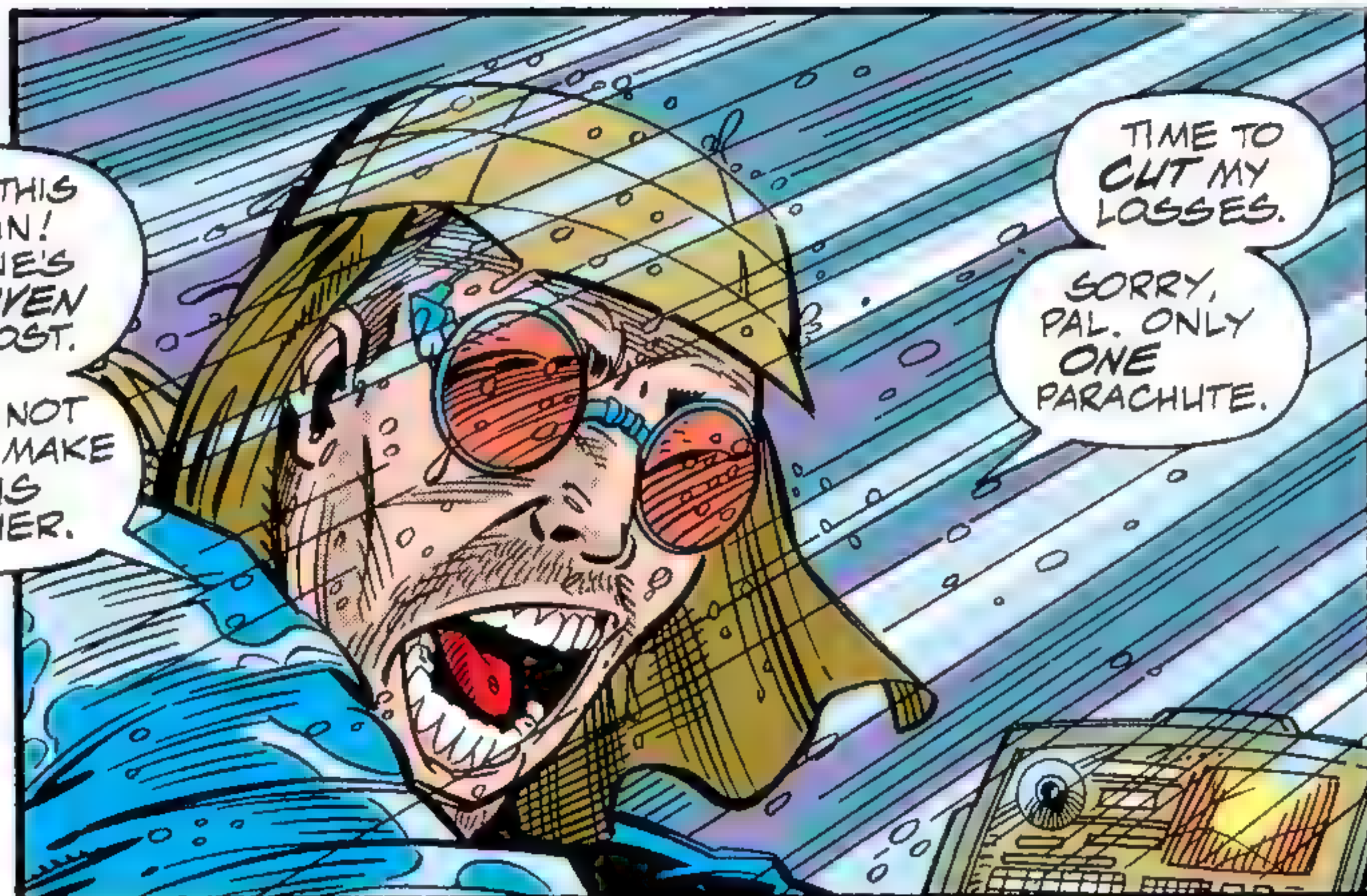
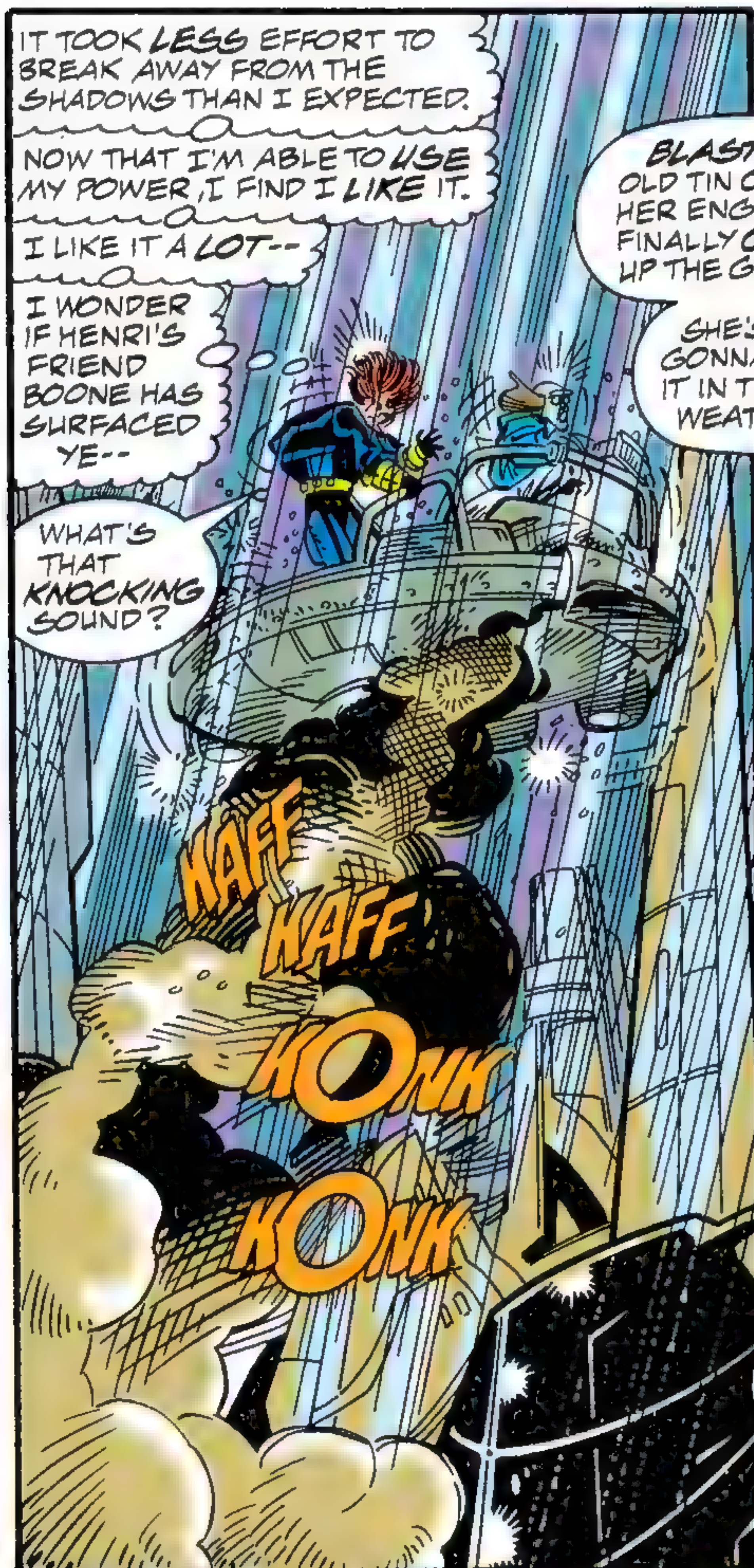
FREEZE. EVERYONE'S UNDER ARREST!

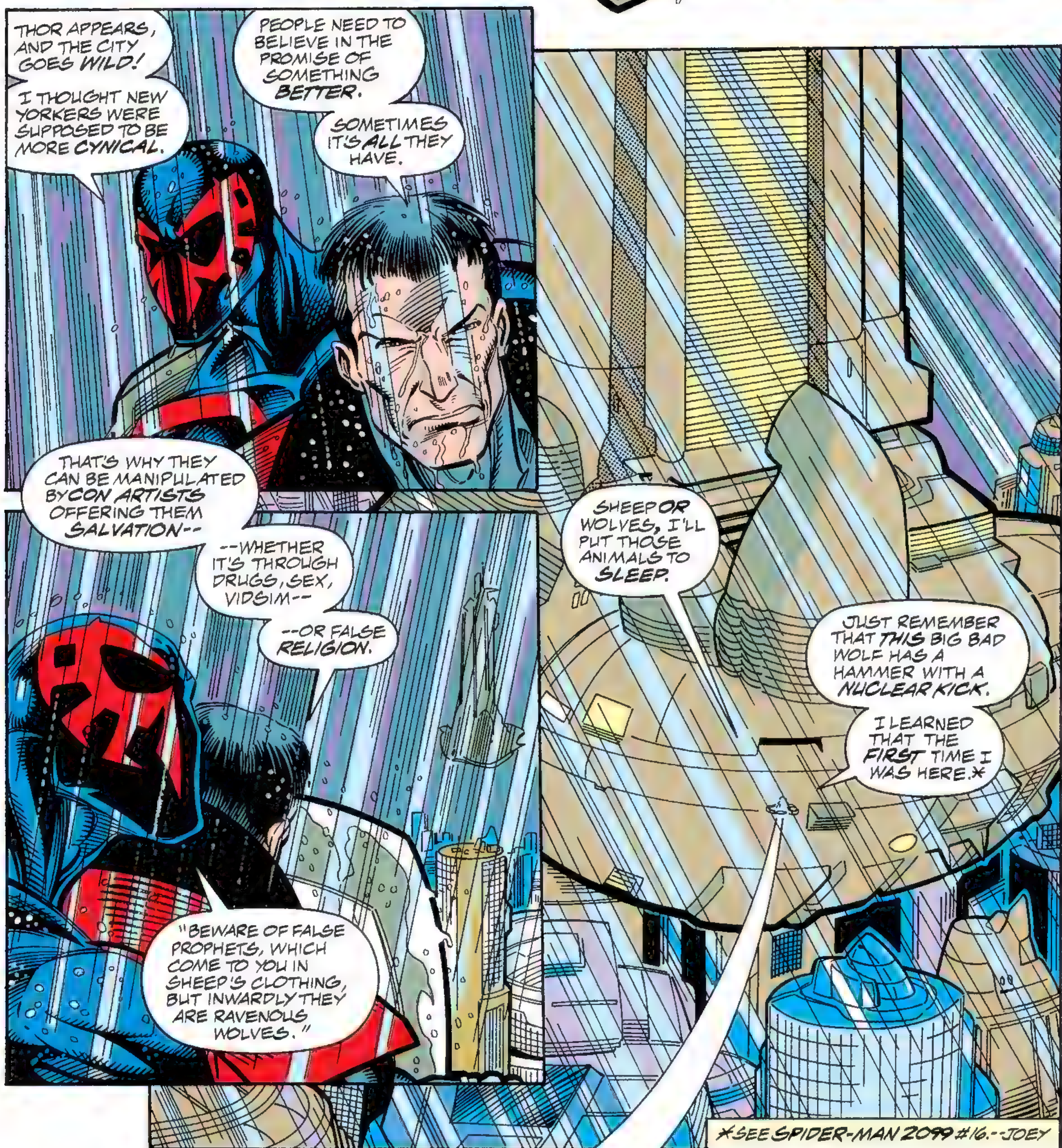
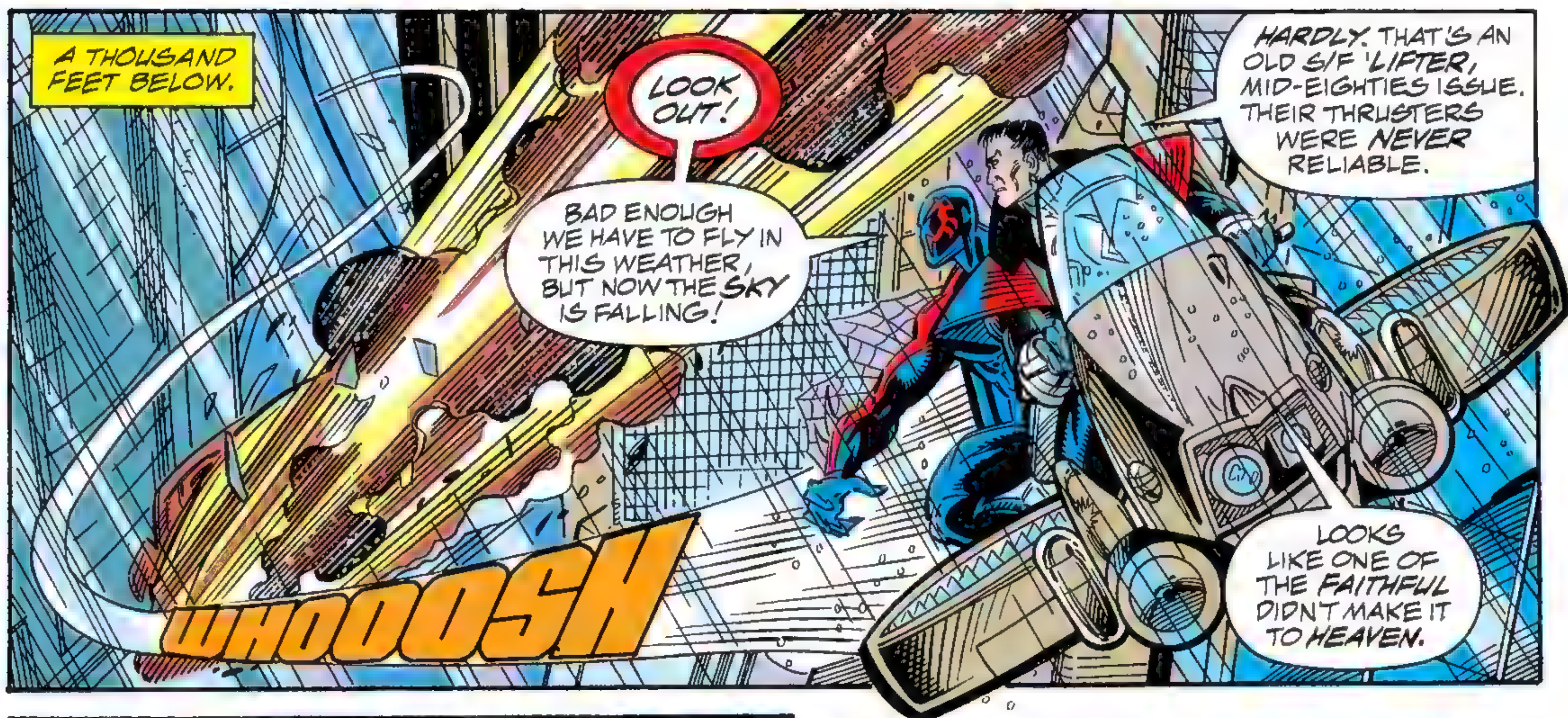
NOT EYECORPS. ALCHEMAX'S SHADOW SQUAD, THE COMPANY'S INTERNAL SECURITY, TOTALLY AUTONOMOUS OF THE PUBLIC EYE.

THEY MUST'VE BEEN MONITORING HIS APARTMENT!









THE CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS
OF ALCHEMAX INTERNATIONAL.

WHAT
GULLIBLE
CHILDREN
THE MASSES
ARE...

...WHETHER IN
DOWNTOWN SQUALOR
OR UPTOWN OPULENCE,
THEY KNEEL BY THEIR
BEDS AT NIGHT...

...PRAYING TO
FICTIONAL DEITIES
TO RESCUE THEM
FROM THE DREARY
RESPONSIBILITIES
OF THEIR MUNDANE
LIVES.

NOW I HAVE
BROUGHT THEM
A PANTHEON TO
WORSHIP INTO
THE NEXT
CENTURY.

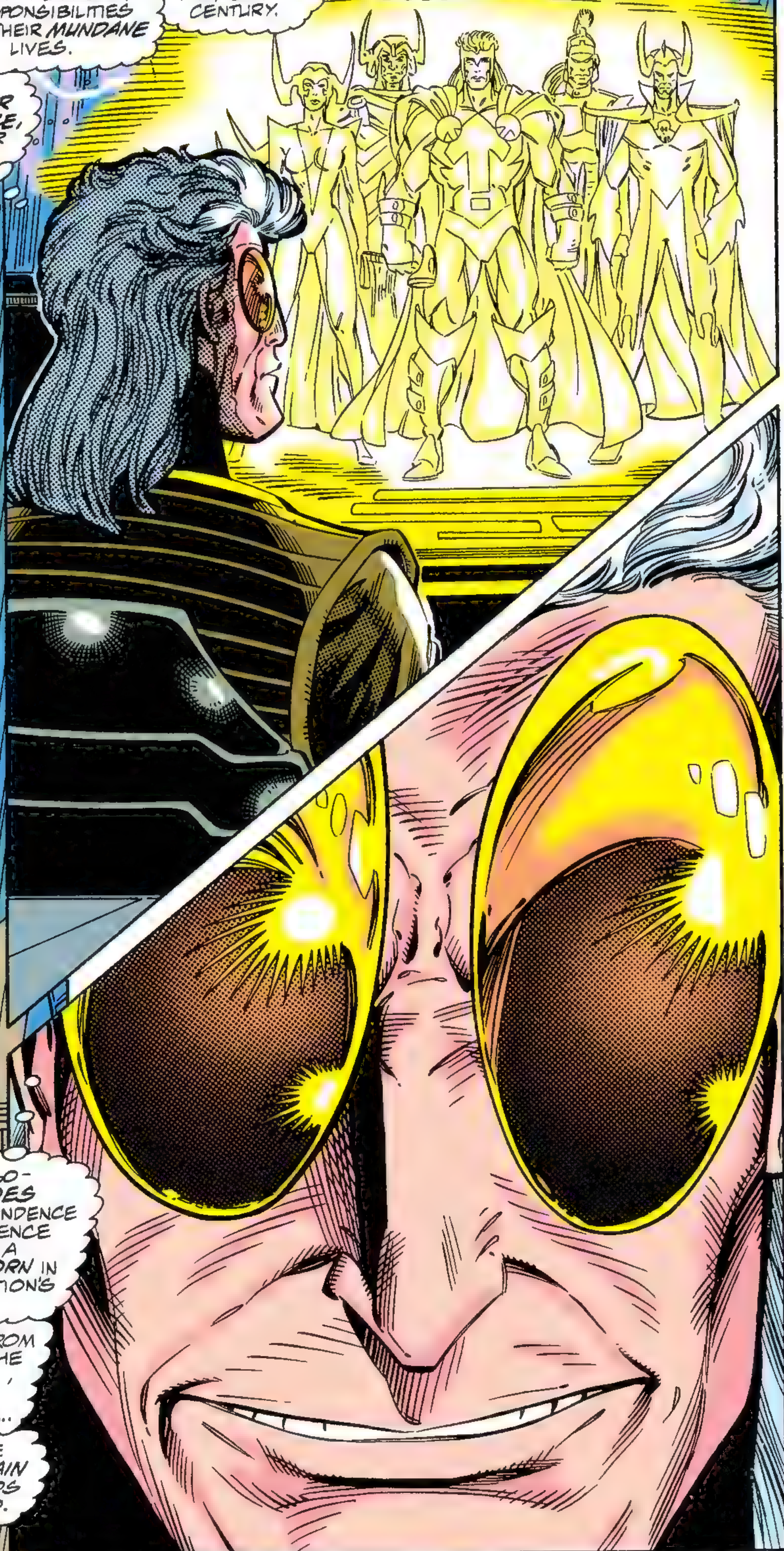
HELA. HEIMDALL.
THOR. BALDUR.
LOKI.

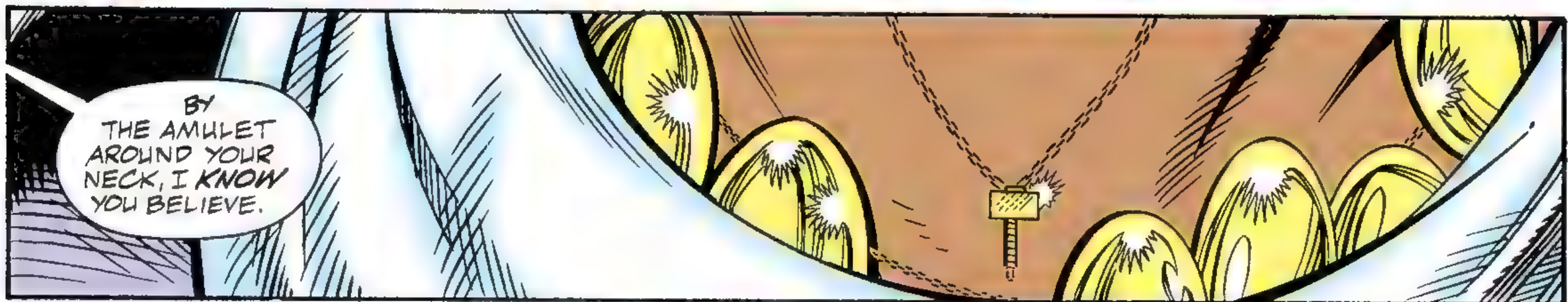
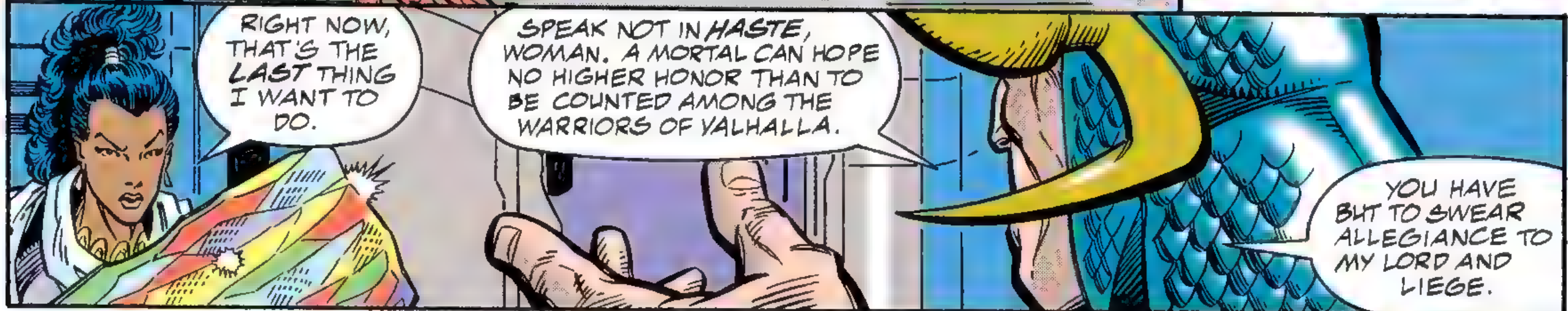
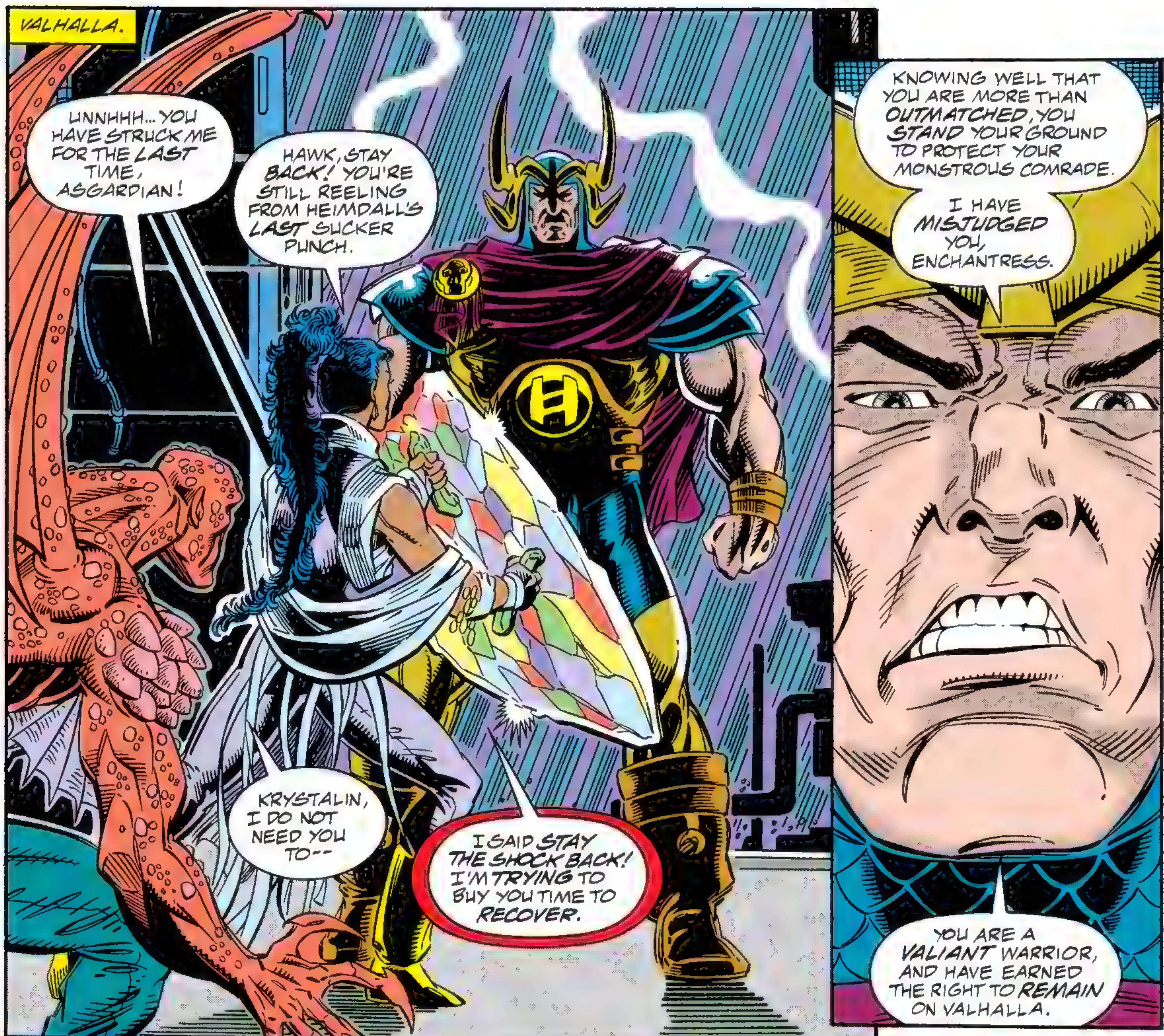
THE NEW
AESIR.

AND THESE SO-
CALLED HEROES
WHOSE INDEPENDENCE
AND INTERFERENCE
HAVE BECOME A
CONSTANT THORN IN
THIS CORPORATION'S
SIDE...

...WILL FALL FROM
GRACE WITH THE
COMMON MAN,
BRANDED AS
HERETICS...

...BEFORE
BEING SLAIN
BY THE GODS
I CREATED.









I UNDERSTAND YOUR HESITANCY. DARE YOU TRUST THE LORD OF DECEPTION?

DON'T WASTE MY TIME.

MANNERS, MY IMPATIENT FRIEND, A GIFT FROM THE GODS IS A RARE THING.

KNOW THAT IT IS NOT THE BLOOD OF IMMORTALS THAT MAKES EVER-VIGILANT HEIMDALL UNBEATABLE--

--RATHER IT IS NEUROTECHNOLOGY THAT HEIGHTENS HIS PERCEPTION AND ACCELERATES HIS RESPONSES--

--NEURO-TECHNOLOGY THAT CAN BE TURNED OFF.



I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE TOYING WITH ME...



... BUT WITH KRY'S ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THAT BROADSWORD--

--I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.

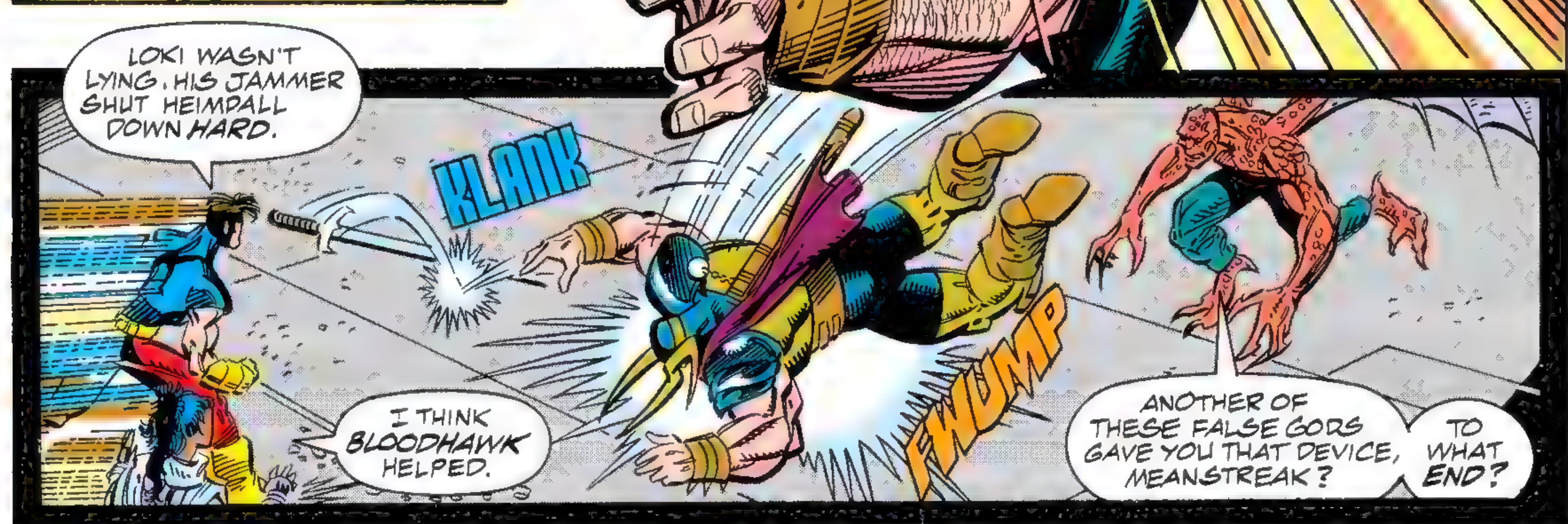
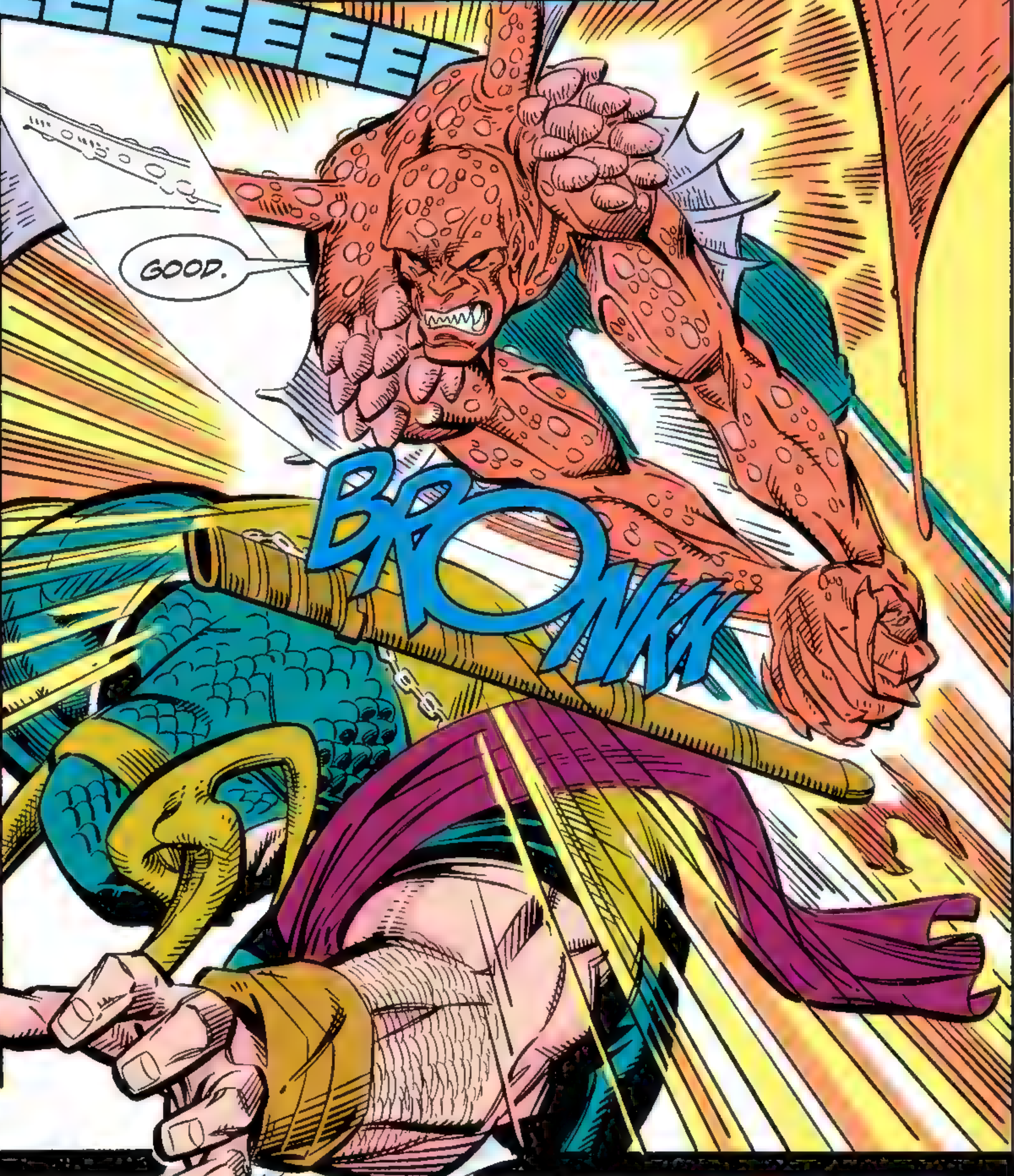
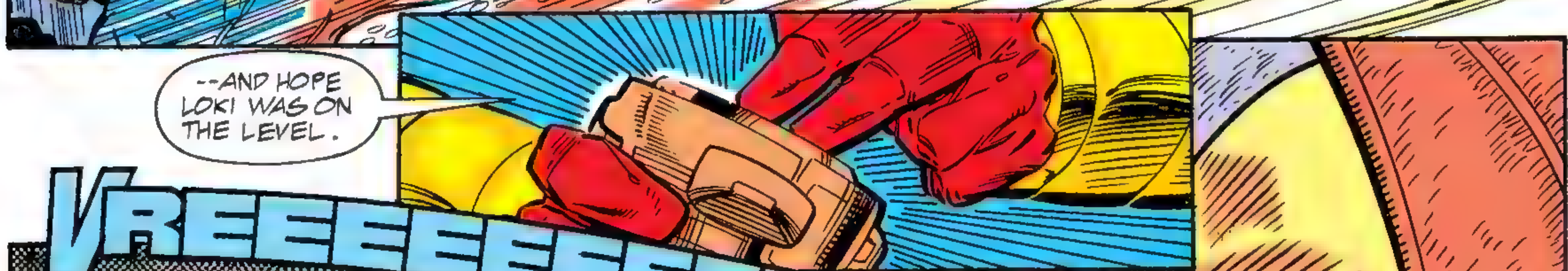


THOSE WHO WILL NOT STAND WITH US MUST FALL BEFORE US. THUS HAVE THE NORNS PROPHESED.

WORRY NOT, ENCHANTRESS, YOUR DEATH WILL BE SWIFT--

--NO MATTER THE EFFORTS OF YOUR FLEET-FOOTED WARRIOR TO PREVENT IT.

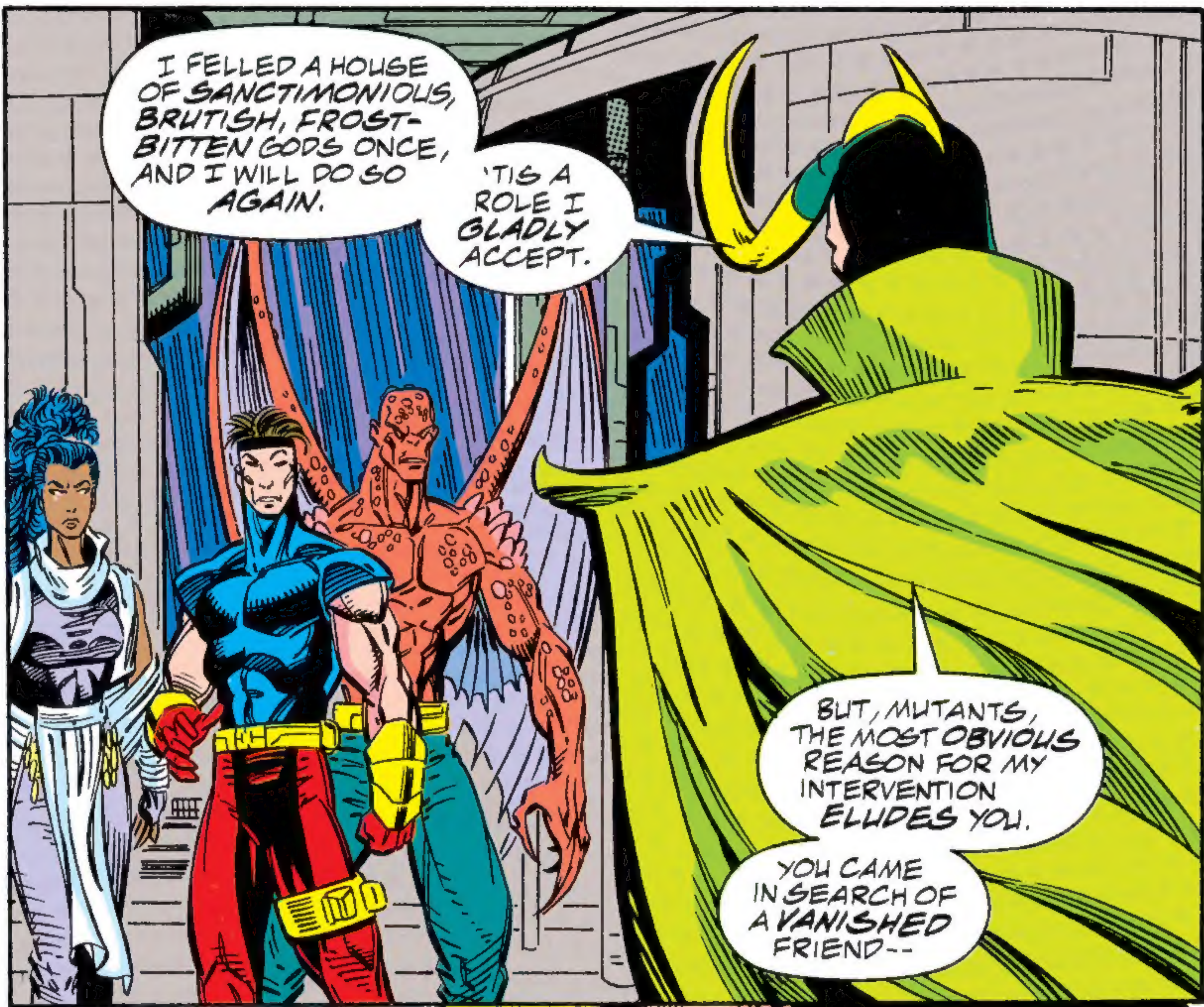
NO!!





I DON'T KNOW
IN THE MYTHOS,
LOKI COULD
NEVER BE
TRUSTED.

HE BROUGHT
ABOUT
RAGNAROK, THE
TWILIGHT OF THE
GODS, BY KILLING
BALDUR.

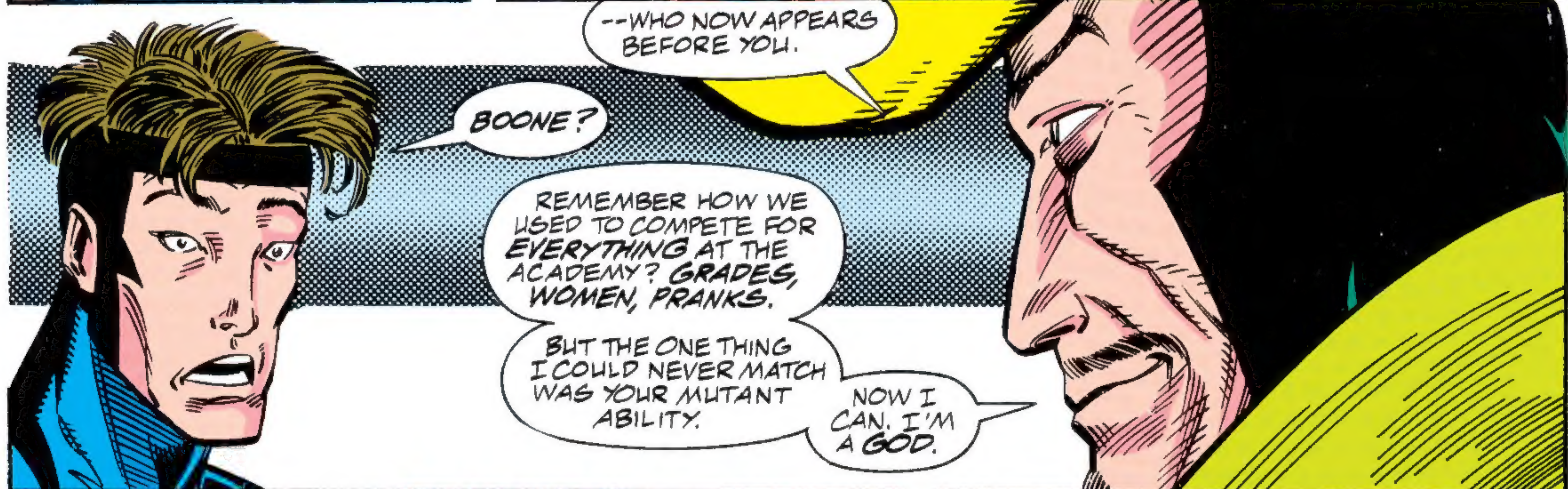


I FELLED A HOUSE
OF SANCTIMONIOUS,
BRITISH, FROST-
BITTEN GODS ONCE,
AND I WILL DO SO
AGAIN.

'TIS A
ROLE I
GLADLY
ACCEPT.

BUT, MUTANTS,
THE MOST OBVIOUS
REASON FOR MY
INTERVENTION
ELUDES YOU.

YOU CAME
IN SEARCH OF
A VANISHED
FRIEND--



--WHO NOW APPEARS
BEFORE YOU.

BOONE?

REMEMBER HOW WE
USED TO COMPETE FOR
EVERYTHING AT THE
ACADEMY? GRADES,
WOMEN, PRANKS.

BUT THE ONE THING
I COULD NEVER MATCH
WAS YOUR MUTANT
ABILITY.

NOW I
CAN. I'M
A GOD.



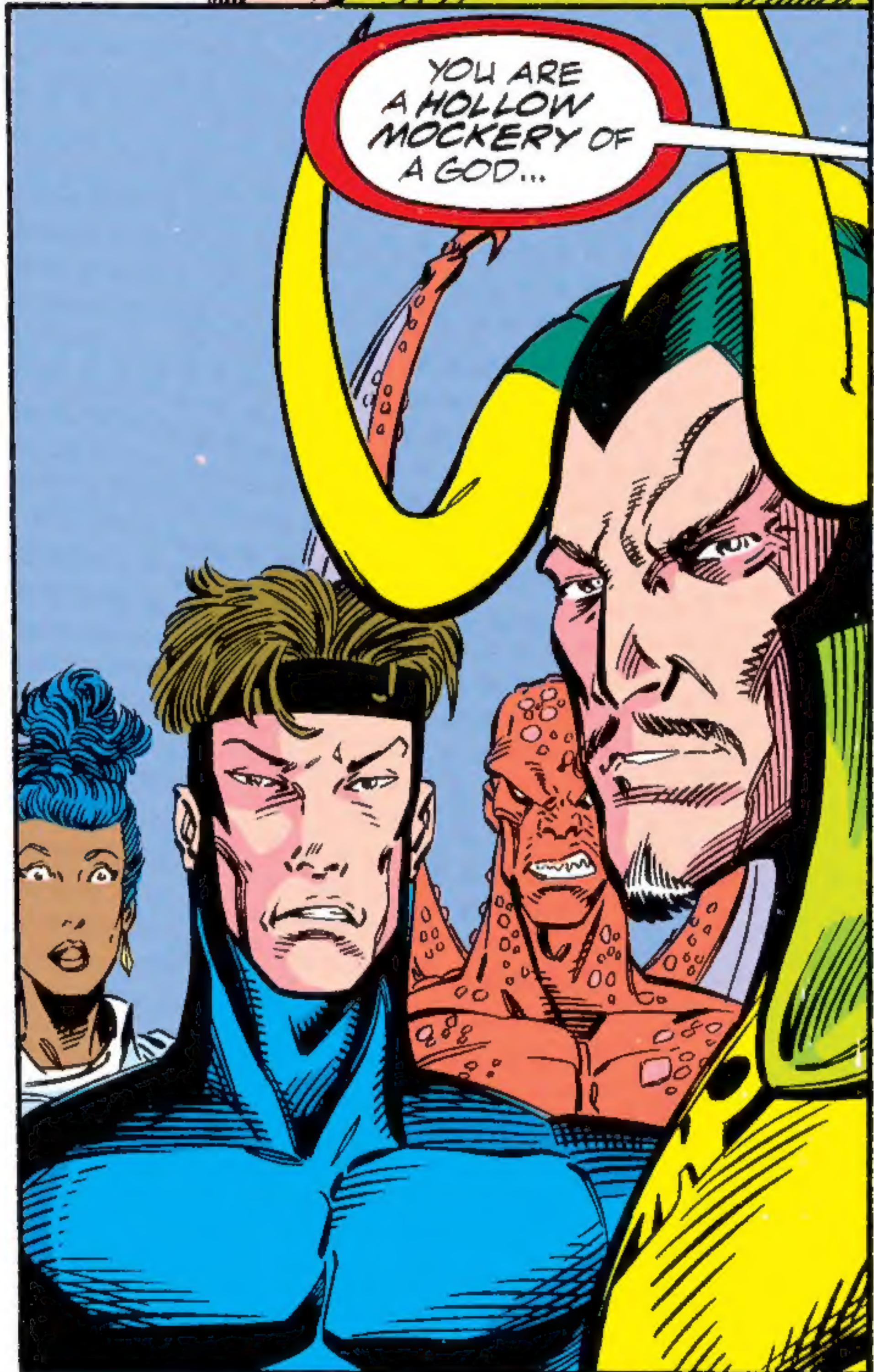
BUT WHY RISK
GENETIC
RESTRUCTURING?
THE POSSIBLE
SIDE EFFECTS...

HANK, THEY
WERE TURNING
MORONS INTO
THE MOST
POWERFUL
BEINGS IN THE
WORLD. I WANTED
THAT POWER!

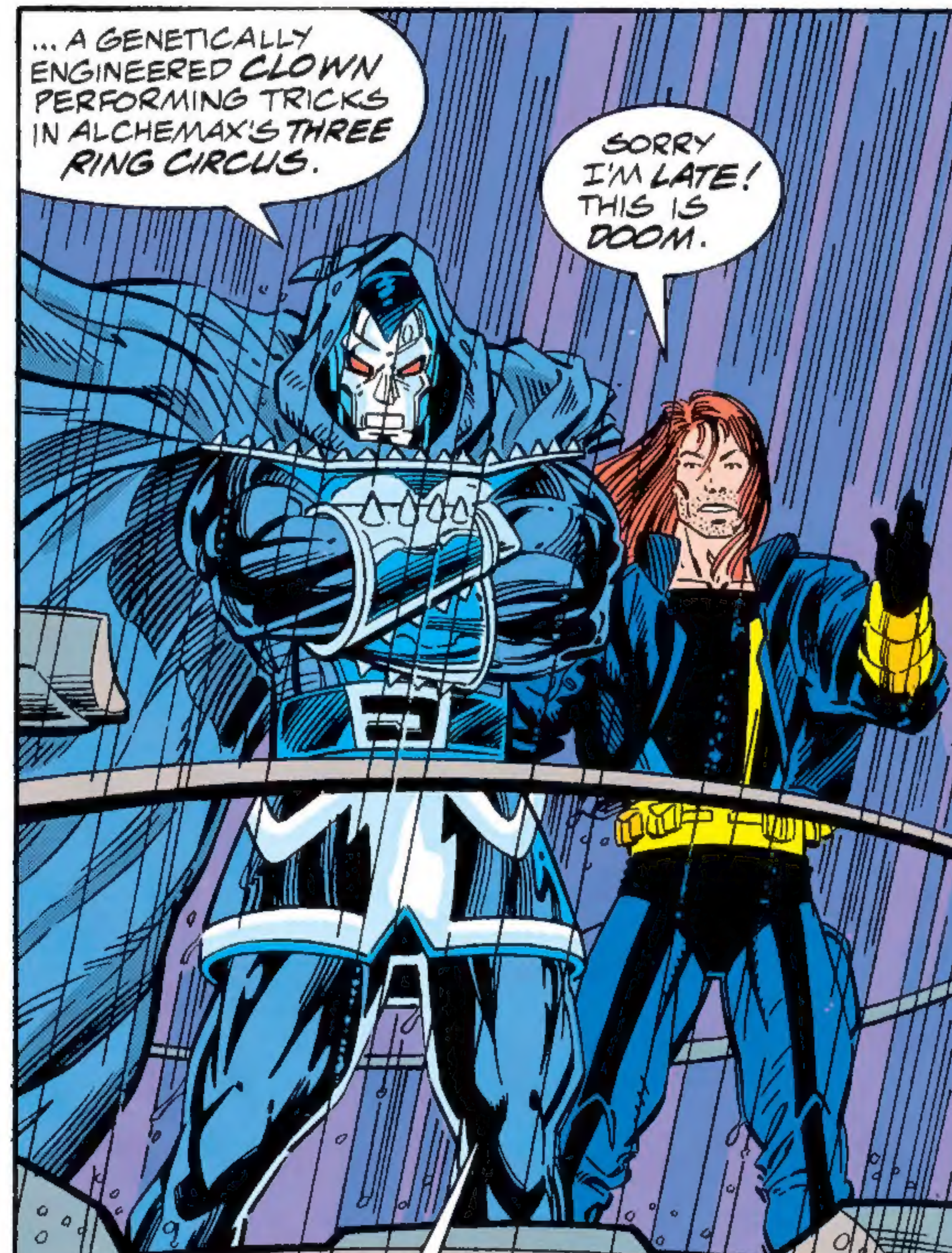
ALCHEMAX'S BIO-
GENETICISTS WERE
RUSHING THE
TRANSFORMATIONS
TO COINCIDE WITH
THE VALHALLA
LAUNCH.

SO I BROKE INTO
THE RESEARCH
BANKS AND
ALTERED MY PSYCH
AND GENE PROFILES
TO MATCH THE LOKI
CRITERIA.

KNOWING THE
TECH, I WAS ABLE
TO SABOTAGE THE
PROCESS SO I
WOULD RETAIN MY
OWN IDENTITY.



YOU ARE
A HOLLOW
MOCKERY OF
A GOD...



... A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CLOWN PERFORMING TRICKS IN ALCHEMAX'S THREE RING CIRCUS.

SORRY I'M LATE! THIS IS DOOM.

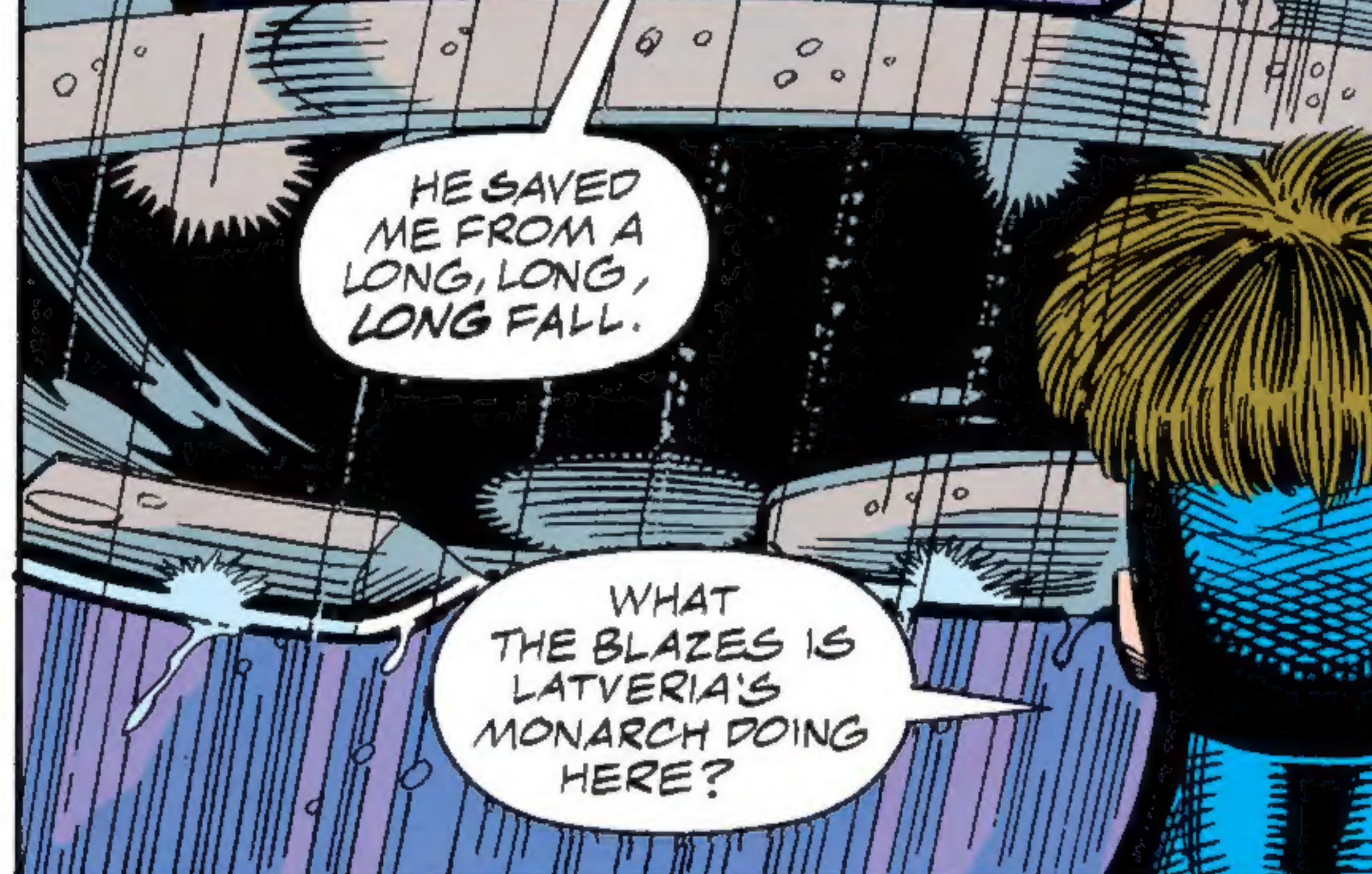


THE RIDDLE BEHIND THIS FLOATING CITY INTRIGUED ME.

AS DID THE RESURRECTION OF THE THUNDER GOD.

FITZ, THESE HIGH DIVES ARE BECOMING A HABIT.

EVERYTHING SORT OF FELL OUT FROM UNDER ME. STORY OF MY LIFE.



HE SAVED ME FROM A LONG, LONG, LONG FALL.

WHAT THE BLAZES IS LATVERIA'S MONARCH DOING HERE?



DOOM HAS ARRIVED. RAVAGE WAITS BELOW. THE X-MEN STAND BESIDE ME.

WE HAVE ONLY TO WAIT FOR THE TENACIOUS SPIDER-MAN'S RETURN, THEN ALL WILL BE ASSEMBLED.

AS I PLANNED.



DO YOU SUGGEST THAT I AM HERE AT YOUR DIRECTION?

OF COURSE. IT WAS CHILD'S PLAY TO ALLOW YOU ACCESS TO ALCHEMAX'S PRIORITY VALHALLA FILES.

I KNEW YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND THE DIRE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS POOR MAN'S HALL OF HEROES.

YOU ARE ALL PART OF A GLORIOUS GAME.



GAME?!?

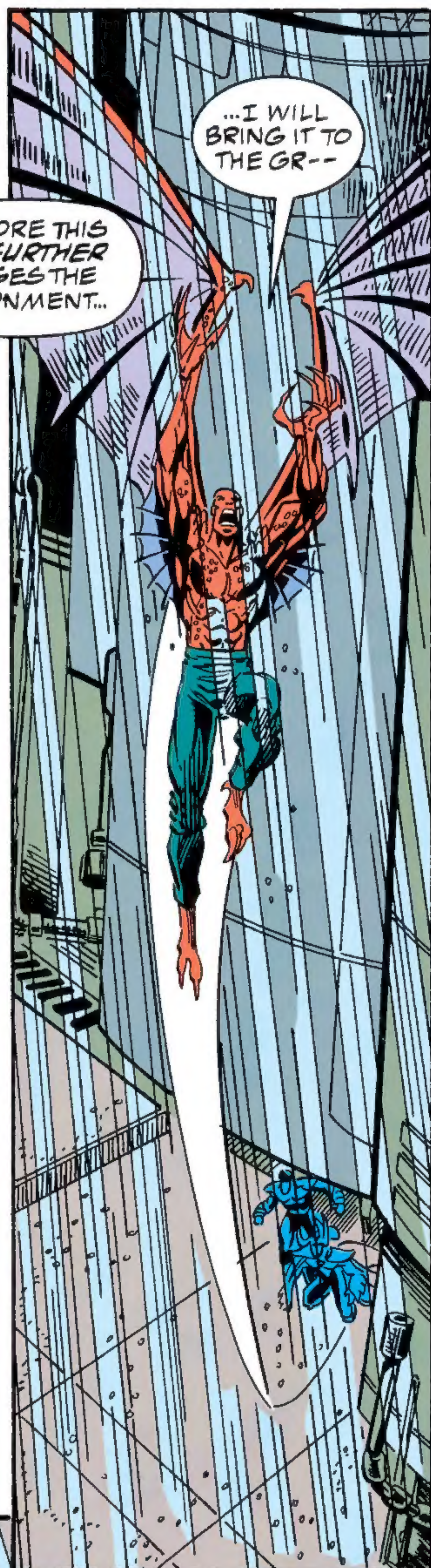
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR GAMES, LITTLE GOD!



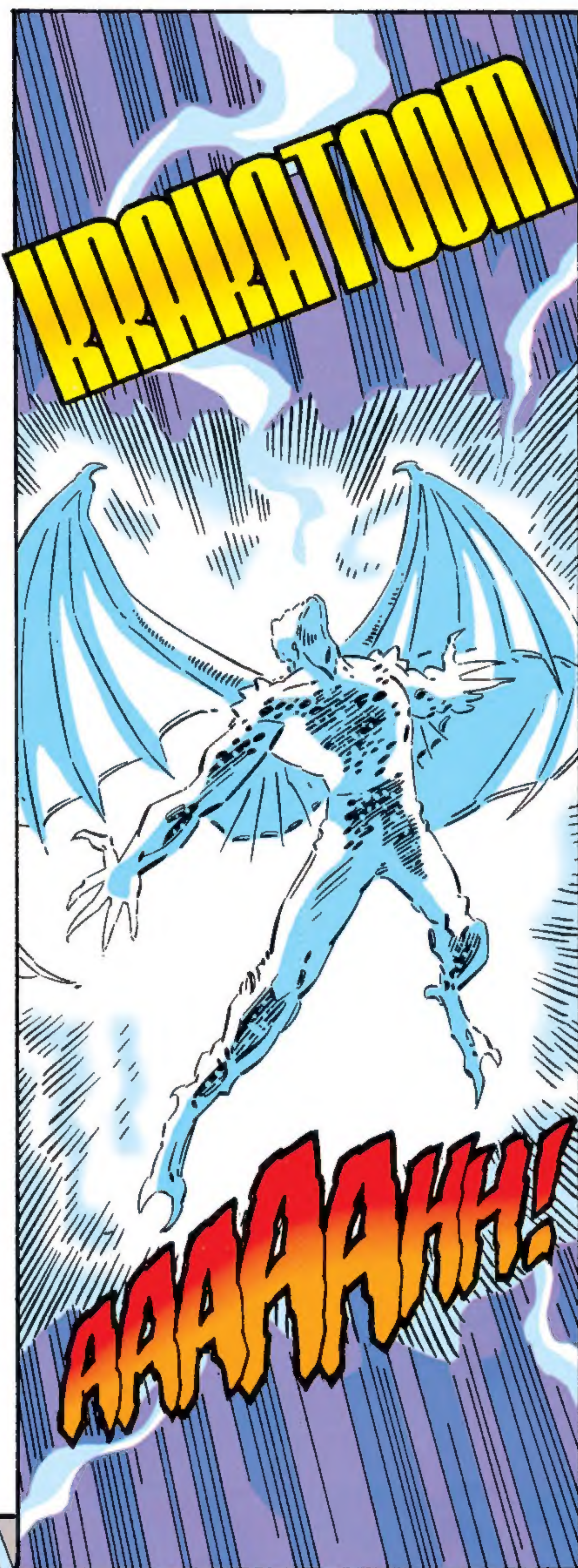
YOU PLAY AT DIVINITY WHILE THIS STRUCTURE POISONS THE SKY AND LEECHES FROM THE EARTH.

I CARE NOTHING FOR YOUR PRETEND GODS.

BEFORE THIS CITY FURTHER DAMAGES THE ENVIRONMENT...



...I WILL BRING IT TO THE GR--



HAWK! TALK TO ME, YOU STUPID FLYING LIZARD!

DON'T TOUCH HIM! HE'S STILL CHARGED.

HELLO, BROTHER.

YOU NEVER COULD MAKE AN ENTRANCE WITHOUT THE STURM UND DRANG...

UNGHH...



MORTALS,
THOU HAST
DARED RAISE
ARMS AGAINST
THE CHOSEN OF
ASGARD.

ON THIS DAY,
THOU SHALT FIND
NO QUARTER, AND
NO MERCY. SO
SWEARS--

THOR,
GOD OF
THUNDER!

TO BE CONTINUED IN
DOOM 2099 #14.